



SPEECH COMMUNICATION

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The study of communication dates back centuries when it was the study of rhetoric, the art of persuading others through public speaking and oratory. Today, the academic discipline focuses on how people use messages to generate meaning within and across various contexts, cultures, channels and media as well as promotes the effective and ethical practice of human communication, according to the National Communication Association.

We communicate 75 percent of our time, whether verbally or nonverbally, not only face-to-face but in all areas of mass and social media.

Speech students obtain a broad-based liberal arts education with the additional advantage of superior communication skills development—a highly desirable asset among employers.



Maggie Yancey **Major: Speech** **Communication**

During her first semester, COD graduate Maggie Yancey enrolled in a speech class and gave an informative presentation about global economics and poverty. Speech Professor Lauren Morgan was so impressed that she suggested Yancey join the Speech Team.

“The team consisted of other passionate individuals who were interested in politics and the news and were self-motivated to propose solutions,” she said. “I thrived in this environment because of the relationships I formed with my teammates and coaches.”

She currently works for the Department of Energy in its Wind and Water Power Technologies Office. Her focus on public service and interest in social issues, especially environmental issues, have led to career opportunities.

WHY COLLEGE OF DUPAGE IS RIGHT FOR YOU

The College of DuPage Speech Communication discipline offers an array of courses specifically designed by faculty experts to prepare students to be successful during their academic career as well as professionally in most all occupations. Speech classes are a great way to develop career skills, whether you are a speech major or simply exploring the field as part of your general education. Skills include group interaction strategies, poise and confidence in public speaking, productive techniques for conflict resolution, the artistic development of creativity, and interactive approaches to corporate culture and public relations.

The COD Speech Communication program offers:

- Dedicated instructors with years of education and professional experience.
- Instruction utilizing top-notch facilities and resources.
- Affordable programs to help students achieve success without creating overwhelming debt.
- Small class sizes that ensure students receive personalized attention from instructors.
- Articulated partnerships with respected baccalaureate-granting institutions.
- An award-winning Forensics Team and two-year division champ at the Illinois All-State Speech and Debate Tournament.

SPEECH COURSES

Speech Communication (Speech 1100) examines the basic concepts of the oral communication process. This class includes communication theory as well as speech preparation and delivery.

Small Group Communication (Speech 1120) introduces students to the study of leadership, group process and interpersonal relations in the small group, conference and public forum. Conflict management, group roles and group development are a central part of the experience. This course is highly interactive and involves multiple group projects.

Persuasion (Speech 1130) teaches students persuasion theory. Students examine principles of motivation, analyze persuasive techniques, and create and develop persuasive presentations.

Business Communication (Speech 1150) helps students understand communication behaviors and concepts in order to develop effective communication skills in the business environment. It covers topics related to communication between employees and their supervisors, communication within work groups and public communication.

Interpersonal Communication (Speech 1160) covers the study of basic principles and theories of interpersonal communication and their application in attraction, conflict, romantic relationships, friendship and familial communication. This course, which includes historical and contemporary perspectives on relational development, is both self-reflective and highly interactive.

Sports Communication (Speech 1180) introduces students to sports communication, exploring current issues driving sports communication research and examining the role of sports communication in contemporary cultures.

Nonverbal Communication (Speech 1820) is a special topics course that examines the major dimensions of study involved in nonverbal communication. It explores the functions and effects of nonverbal messages. Students analyze the underpinnings of how our body language, touch, eye contact, clothing choice and paralanguage may dictate meaning. This elective course focuses on communication theory and up to date research, not public speaking.

Advanced Public Speaking (Speech 2130) increases your understanding of core concepts within communication, both as an academic major as well as for pragmatic democratic participation. Topics include communication theory, advanced techniques in delivery, rhetorical criticism and effective listening.

Argumentation and Debate (Speech 2160) develops and improves argumentative and critical-thinking skills in communication settings. Topics include analysis of discourse, development of sound oral reasoning, proper methods of refutation and the facilitation of argumentation in group situations. Through participation in various types on in-class debates and forums on current topics, students research topics, discover issues and formulate propositions as they apply to social and personal decision-making.

Intercultural Communication (Speech 2200) examines how culture influences the communication process. Students investigate major theories of intercultural communication, the universal human processes that contribute to cultural differences and the practical approaches to communicating more effectively with persons from other cultures.



Lauren Morgan
Program: Full-Time Faculty
Speech Communications

“When I was a student here, it was my dream to teach here. It wasn’t until Tuckie Pillar, a speech faculty member at COD, approached me about applying for a position at COD that my dream of teaching here was rekindled. Now, I’m living that dream. I hope my students take away improved

competence as communicators, a better understanding of human-ness (if that’s a word) and, most of all, a love of learning.”

FORENSICS SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM

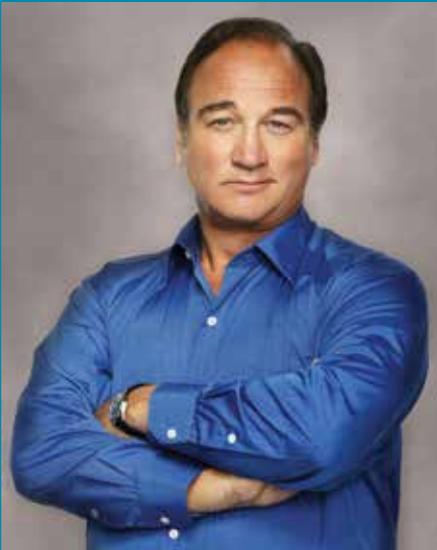
The Speech and Debate (Forensic) teams at College of DuPage have consistently won top honors at the national level tournaments for two-year and four-year institutions, including top honors at the Illinois Intercollegiate Forensics Association State Tournament, Cerritos Invitational (California), Gorlok Gala (St. Louis), Phi Rho Pi Two-Year National Championships, Pi Kappa Delta Nationals, Novice Nationals, and the American Forensics Association National Tournament. Many students have gone on to compete at four-year institutions and earn academic and competitive scholarships. Many team members have reached the top of their career fields, ranging from law to accounting, health care and entertainment (both John and Jim Belushi were team members).

TRANSFER OPPORTUNITIES

The Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) facilitates the transfer of general education credits between schools in Illinois. College of DuPage has many articulated agreements with major colleges and universities, including 2+2 agreements and 3+1 agreements. For more information, go to cod.edu/transfer.

SCHOLARSHIP ACTIVITIES

Students applying to College of DuPage may qualify to receive a financial award through a variety of supported scholarships. Visit cod.edu/scholarships for more information.



Jim Belushi
Major: Theater

Jim Belushi loves the magic of being in the moment.

“Some people do yoga or golf. I perform on stage to gain that focus,” said the actor and comedian. It was a high school speech in the fall of 1969 that led Belushi to the theater.

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

Media and communication occupations are projected to grow 6 percent from 2016 to 2026, about as fast as the average for all occupations, which will result in about 43,200 new jobs, according to the Bureau and Labor Statistics. Demand for media and communication occupations is expected to arise from the need to create, edit, translate and disseminate information through a variety of different platforms.

There are many areas of specialization in communication, according to the National Communication Association. A major in communication can be tailored to a student's interest, strengths and ambitions depending on the educational institution.

Applied Communication
Communication Education
Electronic and Digital Media
Health Communications
International and Intercultural
Communication
Interpersonal Communication
Legal Communication
Mass Communication and
Media Literacy

Mediation and Dispute
Resolution
Organizational Communication
Performance Studies
Political Communication
Public Address
Public Relations
Rhetorical Criticism
Small Group Communications
Visual Communication

GETTING STARTED

If you are considering speech as an area of study:

- Visit our website at cod.edu/speech.
- Consult with our program support specialist or department chairperson.

Anna Gay, Program Support Specialist
Berg Instructional Center (BIC), Room 1441A
(630) 942-2502, gayanna@cod.edu

Stephen Thompson, Speech Department Chairperson
Berg Instructional Center (BIC), Room 2E07D
(630) 942-2121, thompsons@cod.edu

For ADA accommodations, please email access@cod.edu with the event title in the subject line and your accommodation request. Please email two weeks in advance.



 **College of DuPage**

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