

**Oral Communication Center** 

#### Express Yourself: The How-To's of a Great Presentation

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# Agenda

- Fundamentals of professional communication
- Bolstering your confidence
- Structuring your presentation
- Using presentation aids



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### Professional Communication: E-Mail

Formality

Courteous greeting and closing

Cc, Bcc, and Reply All

Promptness



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### Examples

COMM330- Argumentation and Public Policy (Winter 2016) COMM330 x

to me 💌	

Hello Ms. Olson,

My name is **Example 1** and I am a 1st year PhD graduate student at UMD School of Public Health. I am hoping to get more information about the course you are teaching this Winter 2016 session. I see that it is an online course, and on Testudo it states that class information can be found on ELMS. However, I'm not able to find the course and not sure if I have to register for it before seeing it on ELMS. I was hoping to get a copy of the syllabus for this course and find out what days/times it will be held during the Winter Term. Any information about the course would be very helpful.

10/30/15

Thank you for your time.

Best,

#### Professional Communication: Attire

#### Learn the levels





Oral Communication Center Excellence from planning to practice

### Professional Communication: Etiquette

- Take cues from others
- Maintain a tone of deference and respect
- Ask questions
- Carry yourself with confidence
- Stay off your phone



# **Speaking Anxiety**

Briefly discuss the following prompts:

What is fear? What factors cause it?

What are the major factors that cause the fear of public speaking?



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#### Speaking Anxiety: The Causes

- Fear of failure, rejection, judgment
- Mistakes and stumbles
- Personal insecurity and low confidence
- Expectation of perfection
- Poor preparation



#### Speaking Anxiety: The Solution

- Determine root cause
- Breathe and "get in the game"
- Visualize success
  - The audience wants you to succeed
- Know your material
- Practice, practice, practice



## Structuring the Message

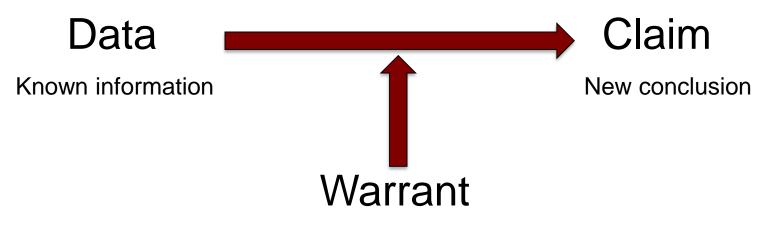
- Everything's an argument
- Order and purpose
  - Why is this here? What does it *earn* for me? How do my ideas build on one another?



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# Organize Argumentatively

Adapted from Stephen Toulmin's The Uses of Argument (1958)



Reasoning that justifies movement from data to claim



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## Structuring the Message

- Forecast and review
- Signposts
  - Enumeration
  - Transitions
  - Emphasis





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## **Effective Visual Aids**

Briefly discuss the following prompts:

What are the goals of visual aids?

What makes a good (or bad) PowerPoint?



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#### Effective PowerPoint: The Basics

- Use slides strategically
- Design after your preparation
- Simplify your slides
- Communicate your brand



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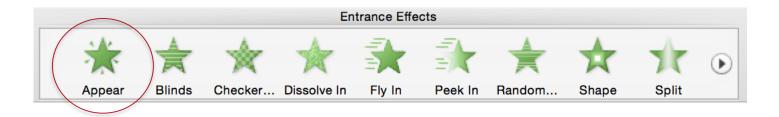
Effective PowerPoint: Design Strategies

5 x 5 rule

Give the eye a break

Use pictures, graphs, and charts

Use the "Appear" function





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#### Thank you!



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