



## PUBLIC SPEAKING Syllabus

Discovery Middle School  
1304 Hughes Road  
Madison, AL 35758

Teacher: Breeding, Tonya  
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Phone Number: 256-837-3735 ext. 8222

<b>Course Description:</b>	Students will participate in activities preparing them to speak effectively. Students will gain confidence, poise, and self-esteem. This course will include practice in vocal skills, organization, persuasion, and argument. Activities <i>may include</i> informative and persuasive speeches, readings from literature, and an introduction to debate.
<b>Course Objectives:</b>	At the conclusion of this class students will be able to assess their progress as speakers and as critical listeners and be able to articulate the value of good public speaking skills.
<b>Classroom Expectations:</b>	Classroom Rules and Procedures: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Be where you are supposed to be.</li><li>2. ...doing what you should be doing...</li><li>3. ...when you are supposed to be doing it.</li></ol>
<b>Textbook:</b>	Madison City Schools does not supply a required textbook for this course.
<b>Grading:</b>	Test grades will account for 60% of the 9-weeks grade, with the remaining 40% being determined by quiz/daily grades. The grading scale is as follows: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (65-69), and F (below 65). Make sure all absences are excused as work can be made up and graded for excused absences only. *Finals for this course are averaged as any other test.
<b>Make-up Work:</b>	Under normal circumstances, it is expected that students will submit <u>previously</u> assigned work upon return to school after an excused absence. All work missed on the day(s) of excused absences must be made up within a timeframe determined by the teacher. <b>It is the responsibility of the student to ensure he or she makes up work following excused absences. Students will not receive credit for and</b>

	<b>will not be allowed to make up any assignments, tests, work, activities, etc., missed during unexcused absences.</b> (DMS 2021-2022 Student Handbook)
<b>Late Work:</b>	<p>For work turned in late, the following policy will apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The assignment will drop one LETTER grade for each school day that passes. For example, if an assignment is turned in one school day late, the highest a student can receive is 89%; two days late, 79%, etc.</li> </ul> <p>1 day late = maximum credit 89%  2 days late = maximum credit 79%  3 days late = maximum credit 69%  4 days late = maximum credit 59%  5-10 days late = maximum credit 50%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Half credit is always better than no credit! Until work has been made up, "Missing" (which counts as a zero) will be put in the grade book. This will be updated once work is completed and turned in.</li> </ul>
<b>Accommodations:</b>	Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed from students and parents.
<b>Turnitin Notice:</b>	<p>Some writing assignments in this course <i>may be</i> submitted to Turnitin via the Schoology learning platform. The primary focus of this software is to help students become better writers and scholars. Turnitin generates a report on the originality of student writing by comparing it with a database of periodicals, books, online content, student papers, and other published work. This program will help students discern when they are using sources fairly, citing properly, and paraphrasing effectively - skills essential to all academic work.</p> <p>Students will have the opportunity to review their Turnitin originality report and will have the opportunity to make revisions before submitting their work for grading. Once their work is submitted, teachers have the opportunity to view the student's originality report and grade accordingly.</p>
<b>Technology</b>	<p>Concerning laptop utilization:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student laptops should not be hard-wired to the network or have print capabilities.</li> </ol>

	<p>2. Use of discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers.</p> <p>3. Neither the teacher, nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops.</p> <p>4. Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher.</p>
<b>Materials and Supplies:</b>	<a href="#">Supply list</a>

<b>9- Week Plan *Subject to Change</b>	
<b>Week</b>	<b>Unit</b>
<b>1</b>	Back to School/Getting to Know You
<b>2</b>	Introductory Unit (w/informational focus)
<b>3</b>	Introductory Unit
<b>4</b>	Demonstration Unit
<b>5</b>	Demonstration Unit
<b>6</b>	Reader's Theater Unit
<b>7</b>	Reader's Theater Unit
<b>8</b>	Persuasive Unit
<b>9</b>	Persuasive Unit
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