

## **Application for Knowledge and Skill Designations**

**Please submit by e-mail attachment to Fr. Patrick Lynch, S.J., Director of the Core Curriculum [lynchp@canisius.edu](mailto:lynchp@canisius.edu).**

Core Curriculum requires courses which are designated with specific knowledge or skill goals. These goals manifest themselves differently in the many types of intellectual engagement specific to disciplines. They address matters both central to the Catholic, Jesuit tradition of education as well as necessary for preparing students for the modern world.

The Knowledge designations are Diversity, Ethics, Global Awareness, and Justice; the Skills designations are Advanced Writing-intensive (at the 200-level or above) and Oral Communication. Any course may be designed with attributes as long as the course has a significant component on the specific Core goal. "A significant component" is defined as either a substantial portion of the course materials or a component of the course materials, no matter of what magnitude, that guides students' understanding of all other materials. Any course may carry, at most, one Knowledge and one Skill designation. Attribute designations may appear on courses taken in fulfillment of Core requirements, major requirements, and free electives.

### **Applying for Oral Communication Designation**

The Core Curriculum requires one course designated as an Oral Communication course. The Core goal is that students will develop abilities to communicate effectively and appropriately in a range of contexts, including face-to-face, through practicing their skills at both sending and receiving messages. A required oral communication course emphasizes the most basic and universal concepts and skills that cut across many fields such as listening respectfully and critically, explaining points clearly, asking questions to gain understanding, adapting messages to different contexts, and solving problems in groups. The faculty expects skilled communicators to demonstrate that they understand audience and purpose, can develop logical arguments integrating appropriate ideas and evidence, and can frame presentations intended for learning through listening.

Effective communication helps maintain a sense of community as well as an ability to craft consensus in an increasingly diverse and complex world. Preparation for life in the modern world requires sensitive and skillful communication with those of widely different backgrounds, cultural experiences, and values. Courses designated for Oral Communication must include all of the student learning objectives listed below:

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Goals:

1. Students will compose a message and provide ideas and information appropriate to its topic, audience, setting, and purpose.

Objective A: Identify the components of effective oral communication of an idea with an argument or thesis supported by evidence.

Objective B: Demonstrate the knowledge of how to select appropriate material that will be understood by the audience.

Objective C: Apply organizational and explanatory strategies suitable to the topic, audience, setting and purpose of the message that is being delivered.

2. Students will demonstrate the ability to deliver effective oral presentations.

Objective A: Speak clearly and employ a rich and imaginative vocabulary with diction and pronunciation appropriate to the context.

Objective B: Present fluently, maintain eye contact with the audience, and use gestures appropriate to the context.

Objective C: Define the thesis and/or purpose of the message, use smooth transitions from one section to the next, and end with a clear and direct conclusion.

Objective D: Demonstrate the effective and judicious use of detail and evidence in substantiating and/or illuminating the presentation's central thesis

## **Application for Oral Communication Designation**

1. Date:
2. Department:
3. Name of Person submitting this application (must be chair or designate):
4. Course number and Title (must be approved by a department/program):
  
- 5a Provide a brief description of the course.
  
- 5b. Please explain how in-class instruction about the Oral Communication attribute will be offered in this course.
  
- 5c. Estimate the amount of content that will be devoted to the Oral Communication attribute.

6. For each learning objective, briefly describe how this course will attempt to meet the objective.

Understand that each objective will be assessed by both the instructor and the assessment committee. A single assignment may be the assessment vehicle for two or more objectives. Student artifacts that document student performance towards these objectives will be submitted by the instructor for assessment.

Objective 1A: Identify the components of effective oral communication of an idea with an argument or thesis supported by evidence.

This course meets objective 1A by...

Objective 1B: Demonstrate the knowledge of how to select appropriate material that will be understood by the audience.

This course meets objective 1B by...

Objective 1C: Apply organizational and explanatory strategies suitable to the topic, audience, setting and purpose of the message that is being delivered.

This course meets objective 1C by...

Objective 2A: Speak clearly and employ a rich and imaginative vocabulary with diction and pronunciation appropriate to the context.

This course meets objective 2A by...

Objective 2B: Present fluently, maintain eye contact with the audience, and use gestures appropriate to the context.

This course meets objective 2B by...

Objective 2C: Define the thesis and/or purpose of the message, use smooth transitions from one section to the next, and end with a clear and direct conclusion.

This course meets objective 2C by...

Objective 2D: Demonstrate the effective and judicious use of detail and evidence in substantiating and/or illuminating the presentation's central thesis.

This course meets objective 2D by...

7. Attach a course syllabus, even a sketchy one, or a detailed course plan, which shows the texts and other materials that you plan to use in the course, the structure and grading weight of assignments and other information that you believe is pertinent to this attribute.

Please contact the Director of the Core Curriculum to see the rubric that will be used to assess artifacts for the Oral Communication attribute. Chairs are responsible for ensuring that each section of this course will adhere to the principles and instruction laid out here.