



Liberty Middle School

281 Dock Murphy Drive, Madison, Alabama 35758

Introduction to Public Speaking

Mrs. Samantha Hicks

Teacher Contact Information	Email: shhicks@madisoncity.k12.al.us Classroom Phone: 256-430-0001 ext. 83134
Classroom Digital Platforms	Webpage Link: https://www.madisoncity.k12.al.us/Domain/2095 Schoology Link: https://madisoncity.schoology.com/
Textbook Information, Required Texts, and Other Instructional Materials	<p>A textbook will not be used for this course. <i>Parents and guardians can access other supplemental material through the Schoology platform.</i></p>
Course Description	<p>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 may include informative and persuasive speeches, readings from literature, and an introduction to debate.</p>
Course Objectives	<p>Students will learn how to be in front of an audience, learn strategies to overcome performance anxiety and learn how to organize and deliver various types of speeches.</p>
Course Outline	<p>Course Outline: (subject to change) Week 1: Classroom Procedure/Expectations, Ice Breakers Week 2: Speech Basics, Effective Listening Week 3: Introduction Speech/Bad Speeches Week 4-5: Infomercial Speech Week 6-7: Demonstrative Speech Week 8-9: Impromptu Speeches and Intro to Debate</p>
Classroom Expectations	<p>In this class, we always treat each other with kindness and respect. We support each other in performances and work together as a team. In the event that a student is disrespectful or misbehaves, I will adhere to MCS and LMS policy regarding discipline.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No cell phones during instructional time. 2. Come prepared to class and be on time to avoid being marked tardy (3 tardies will result in parent contact). 3. Be respectful of the teacher, property, and other students 4. Students must sign out and have a pass to leave the classroom 5. Students must use correct email format. 6. Students will dress for success when presenting (no jeans with holes or athletic clothing)
Technology and Cell Phone Procedures	<p>Students should bring their MCS chromebooks and chargers to class each day. Teachers monitor student activity and participation; however, students are responsible for their activity on school-issued devices and using their MCS accounts.</p> <p>Cell phones and earbuds/headphones will not be allowed to be used during classroom instruction time. Phones and earbuds/headphones will be put away in a location designated by the teacher and placed in silent mode. Students will have access to their phones and earbuds/headphones outside of classroom instruction time, such as between classes and during lunch, but devices should be put away when</p>

	students are in the serving line. Failure to follow these procedures will result in a disciplinary referral to the office.
Progressive Discipline <i>(LMS Policy)</i>	Liberty Middle School Classroom Management Plan: Step 1: Verbal warning Step 2: Student/teacher conference with parent notification Step 3: Parent contact/conference Step 4: Detention Step 5: Referral to administration for repeat Class I violations and initial Class II and Class III offenses (Madison City Schools Code of Conduct)
Grading Policy <i>(MCS Policy)</i>	60% Tests/speeches 40% Daily/participation
Late Work Policy	Late work will be accepted up to 3 days after the initial due date, with a deduction of 10 points each day it's late. After 3 days, the highest grade students can make is 70 percent.
Make-up Work/ Test Policy	Students will be allowed to make up work for excused absences. Work missed in an exploratory class may be impossible to make up. If unusual circumstances exist, the principal may extend the time allowed to complete the work. For unexcused absences, students will receive zeros for all work (including tests) missed. The scheduled days for Electives are Mondays and Thursdays . If school is closed, tests may be given on the following school day.
Homework	Homework will include speech rehearsal before speech days.
Parent and Student Acknowledgement Form	<input type="checkbox"/> I have read and understand the syllabus for this course. I agree to uphold it throughout the course. Student Name: _____ Signature _____ Date: _____ Parent name: _____ Signature _____ Date: _____