Welcome to the Fundamentals of Public Speaking in the online/Hybrid format. I am your instructor and am looking forward to meeting you at the orientation session. At the MANDATORY orientation session which is the FIRST meeting day of the class, I will review the requirements for this class and discuss ways you can succeed in the course. The orientation date and location for this class is listed in the schedule of classes along with the rest of the class meetings. Here is an additional list of the course meetings. IF YOU ARE TAKING THIS COURSE THAT MEETS ON SATURDAYS you will be coming to class on:

Aug. 29
Sept. 19
Oct. 17
Nov. 14
Nov. 21
Dec. 5

IF YOU ARE TAKING THIS COURSE THAT MEETS ON MONDAYS you will be coming to class on:

Aug. 24
Sept. 14
Oct. 12
Nov. 9
Nov. 16
Nov. 30

Make sure you have reviewed the dates this online course meets to safeguard against conflicts you may have in scheduling.
The text for this class is produced by Thinkwell.com and you will use it to do the day to day work. **You will enter into the course content through the USE of BLACKBOARD.** Our text is essentially a list of multi-media online lectures you will be expected to watch and learn from. At the orientation, I will bring a compete syllabus listing all requirements and the due dates in paper form, I will show you our Blackboard page and explain how we will be using the Thinkwell platform. You do not have to do ANY work before the date of the orientation.

**You will not need any other materials for this class.**

In fact, I ask that you WAIT TO PURCHASE THE THINKWELL TEXT PACK UNTIL AFTER THE ORIENTATION—THIS WILL ENSURE YOU ARE ABLE TO GET THE CHEAPEST PRICE. Be advised that you cannot access our website until the day of the orientation.

To take this course using your **home computer** you will need the following minimum requirements:

*A strong Internet connection*

**If you use a PC:** Minimum requirements- Pentium 166 Mhz with Windows 95 or NT 4.0, 32 MB RAM & sound card; Recommended System--200 Mhz or faster with Windows 95, 98 2000, or NT 4.0; 64 MB RAM; and a sound card.

**If you use a MAC:** Minimum requirements-Power PC 120 Mhz with MAC OS 8.1 and 32 MB RAM; Recommended system—PowerPC 200 Mhz or faster with MAC OS 8.1 or later and 64 MB RAM.

*If you do not have the minimum system requirements at home, any College of the Canyons computer labs can be used to access all course platforms and material.*
Finally, this course relies upon your commitment to do the coursework **independently.** If you are a student who needs hands-on guidance and face-to-face interaction to learn, this may not be the best course for you. Ideally, you should be self-reliant, motivated and disciplined in your work ethic. It is a bonus if you catch on to concepts quickly and have the determination to seek out help when you need it. Additionally, I do not recommend this course for those who have particularly high levels of public speaking apprehension. You are far better served taking a course that meets weekly on-campus as a means to working through this fear.

I look forward to meeting you at our orientation meeting which is mandatory. If you have questions about this course I can be reached via email at: Karyl.Kicenski@canyons.edu

Sincerely,
Karyl Kicenski
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Distance learning home page:
http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/online/COUNS-070.asp