THE UI SPEAKING CENTER (412 EPB)

OPEN TO ALL UI STUDENTS AND INSTRUCTORS

OUR TRAINED STAFF, INCLUDING EXPERIENCED ESL LECTURERS, CAN HELP STUDENTS AND INSTRUCTORS WITH ALL FORMS OF ORAL COMMUNICATION

OPEN MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY DURING THE FALL AND SPRING SEMESTERS

PLEASE SIGN UP ONLINE FOR UP TO 3 APPOINTMENTS PER WEEK AT

<http://clas.uiowa.edu/rhetoric/speaking-center>

# The Speaking Center’s General Mission:

The Speaking Center, housed in the Rhetoric Department in Rooms 410, 412, and 414 EPB, offers quality, one- on-one and small group tutoring and consultation to students and instructors on campus who would like to work on any aspect of oral communication. We work with a range of students from many disciplines on such issues as: effective participation in class discussions, crafting and delivering oral presentations, understanding unfamiliar cultural references, interview skills, creative performances, reading comprehension, and speech anxiety. We also work with instructors on: effective instruction of international students, crafting clear assignments, fostering effective classroom dynamics, ensuring that all students can access their reading assignments, going on the job market, and delivering poster and conference presentations.

Each semester, we have the good fortune to tutor many instructors and international students who have met our ESL pre-requisites (i.e., completion of the IIEP program and ESL 183 and 184) on such issues as: participating in discussion classes, understanding assignments, avoiding plagiarism on assignments, comprehending cultural references and unfamiliar vocabulary in assigned and unassigned reading, crafting and delivering speeches, etc. Many of our staff members are lecturers in the ESL and IIEP programs and are indispensable resources for international students and their instructors.

# Instructor Consultation:

We are eager to help instructors across campus with all aspects of public speaking—from delivering quality lectures to assigning and assessing speaking assignments. We are also interested in enhancing the experiences of our growing international student population on campus. Our staff, many of whom have extensive experience and training in ESL instruction, welcomes the opportunity to help instructors across campus anticipate and mitigate potential challenges that international students may face. Our collective experience working with students and instructors across campus and from around the world has given us insight that we would like to share with other instructors, and we welcome all interested instructors at The University of Iowa to sign up for up to three appointments per week with us to discuss any issue of interest to you.

We are particularly interested in helping individual instructors and small groups of instructors:

* Devise clear speaking assignments and rubrics.
* Feel comfortable in front of the class.
* Learn to fairly and effectively assess student performances.
* Feel comfortable in all aspects of teaching.
* Recognize and address the concerns of their international students, who may benefit from having more context to supplement culturally-focused readings and who may come from very different educational systems with different classroom styles.

We encourage all instructors, experienced as well as less experienced, who would like to discuss any aspect of teaching to sign up for an appointment to discuss your ideas with one of our teaching consultants.