Public Speaking for Engineers.

Course Information

Instructor: Paul Kohl (kohl@gatech.edu)
Course Prefix and Number: CHBE 8801 PAK
Term: Fall 2026

Course Description

This course is a ChBE graduate elective for those interested in developing better public speaking and interpersonal skills for professional (e.g., qualifying exams and job interviews) and social situation. It is structured to help first time and experienced speakers build confidence and public speaking skills to effectively communicate in professional and everyday situations. The course builds skills one-step at a time in a supporting and positive atmosphere.

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Course Learning Outcomes

By enrolling in this course, students will:

1. Learn techniques in public speaking for professional and social situations
2. Understand audience expectations.
3. Improve communications.

Required Course Materials

No textbooks or materials are required. Resources for research are determined in consultation with the thesis advisor.

Grading Policy

This course is graded on a **Satisfactory (S) / Unsatisfactory (U)** basis.

- A grade of **Satisfactory (S)** indicates that the student has made acceptable progress in their research toward degree completion, consistent with the number of thesis credit hours for which the student is enrolled for the semester.
- A grade of **Unsatisfactory (U)** indicates that the student did not meet the expectations for satisfactory performance during the term.

Attendance Policy

This course has weekly class meetings. Students are expected to attend class.

Academic and Research Honesty/Integrity Statement

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. Review the Student Code of Conduct and the Academic Honor Code, especially Appendix A: Graduate Addendum to the Academic Honor Code.

Students are expected to perform assignments in an ethical and responsible manner. All students are required to take the Responsible Conduct of Research training, and it is expected that students abide by the principles taught in that training while performing assignments for this course.

Allegations of scientific or scholarly misconduct are handled in accordance with the procedures outlined by the Policy for Responding to Allegations of Scientific or Other Scholarly Misconduct.

Core IMPACTS

Not applicable.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services as soon as possible to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Expectations of Instructor and Students

At Georgia Tech, we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.