



OU Women's Initiative Art of Speaking Seminar  
Timeline & Assignments

**Pre-work:** Record yourself for 2 minutes on any of the following topics:

- This week's parsha
- The most important Jewish value
- Share something about yourself that really defines who you are
- A topic of your choice

**Instructions for recording:** Record yourself, using your phone or in a Zoom meeting, where you usually deliver your content (to record using Zoom, just start a meeting, press record, and end the meeting when you are done). Speak as you normally would when delivering your message (eg. If you are usually extemporaneous, then speak off the cuff; if you usually prepare notes, use the notes). You do not need to finish the message entirely – the purpose is to simply get 2 minutes of you speaking in your natural setting. Record yourself ONCE – don't re-record it as that's not the purpose of this exercise. You will be the only one seeing this video. Have the video available to you for the first workshop.

**Sunday, January 9, 2022:** Workshop focus on behaviors and virtual setting; learn to give and receive effective feedback and productive self-critique. You may wish to bring certain virtual-related props such as a desk lamp and books or a box to create a working platform. Have your pre-work video available to you for playback.

**Homework:**

1. Re-record your video on the same topic keeping in mind the behaviors and virtual setting learned; send to your partner for critique using feedback checklist; critique delivered to your partner by January 16
2. Pick a topic for your 3-5 minute final presentation

**Sunday, January 16, 2022:** Workshop focus on content for final presentation.

**Homework:**

1. Meet with your partner to work through your content using feedback checklist
2. Revise content based on the feedback by February 6, 2022

**Sunday, February 6, 2022:** Workshop focused on engaging your audience using Powerpoint and PROPS (pictures/visuals, references, objects, parallels, stories); PROPS will be added to final presentation during this workshop; tips for remembering your content without reading; tips for getting past your nerves.

**Week of February 7-11:** Small group coaching #1 – present final topic to group including PROPS (any slides can be added for this session or next session); peer/coach critique; record and playback.

**Homework:**

Make changes based on the feedback received in Session #1

**Week of February 21-25:** Small group coaching #2 – final topic presentations with PROPS and/or slides, recorded and played back for final critique.

**Sunday, February 27, 2022:** Graduation: Reflect, Recognize, and Celebrate.