**Birds fly and Humans speak.**

Course objectives, by the end of our time together, you

1. Should be able to design, and deliver basic presentations concisely.
2. You should be able to design and deliver informative presentations.
3. Finally and just as importantly, being able to evaluate

***The impromptu speech*** (done without preparation or planning): is a short 3 to 6 minute two point speech. The goal here is to get you to the point where you can quickly organize a speech that sounds good.

***The informative speech***: is a little bit longer. It’s a 5 to 10 minute speech that educates an audience on a topic. So here, one of the challenges is being able to explain complex details, complex evidence in a way that is accessible for an audience (e.g. explaining a scientific theory).

***The persuasive speech:*** this is a 5 to 10 minute speech that attempts to shift audience opinion or raise audience awareness on a topic. So here, we want to be able to motivate the audience through clear arguments. We’re really trying to pull together claims and evidence in a way that is persuasive.

What can be said or should be said about that particular topic, that speech topic.

The specific audience is what their expectations for that type of presentation are.

The setting is what the room set up likes

The speaker's credibility.

And all of these factors, topic, setting, audience, all of these are shifting and flexible.

Some you can bend, some you can break, some you simply must adapt to.

So why go into all of this? For this very simple reason, and it's something I expect you already know, but it bears repeating.

There is no single form of successful speaking.

There's no Esperanto of public speaking, something that holds across all cultures. It doesn't exist.

For that reason we’re going to be looking at skills, rather than genres. We’re going to be looking at skills that you can adapt to the speaking situations that you find yourself in because I don't know what sort of speaking situation you're going to be in tomorrow or next week.

And quite honestly, you probably don't either.

**So the goal of this Workshop Competition isn't for you to just do a good speech. It is for you to become a good speaker.**

And that may sound like a minor difference, but it is a pretty big one. And I think maybe one way of looking at this is through a sports analogy. We could look at this in soccer or football, right?

So the good players is not simply someone who can dribble the ball well, right?

They have to be able to respond dynamically to all the things that are going on around them, making good judgments, performing good plays. They don't just march down the field, dribbling the ball. They'd get it take it away and they'll look foolish. But so it's really about being able to take that core scale and adapt to these situations. And that's what we're going to be doing with public speaking, looking at a couple of key skills, but then say, you need to develop the capacity, the judgment, to adapt the skills to the speech situation that you're in.

So what, then, are these core skills?

1. Designing clear presentations
2. Delivering them in an engaging way.

So where would these core skills be useful?

Well, I would say probably most places, most speeches. These are certainly going to be useful skills in business presentations or class presentations or briefings or fundraising speeches or awareness campaigns, where you have to be clear about either information or persuasion, where you have to be on point, you have to be concise.