

Fundamentals of Public Speaking

PATHS Seminar



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Do you want to feel more comfortable sharing your research with an audience?

Whether you're presenting to an audience of one or one hundred, public speaking can be a difficult and nerve-racking experience. The goal of this course is to help change that. You will learn effective strategies for honing your presentation skills, managing anxieties, and becoming a more persuasive and engaging speaker. Through a combination of discussion, small group activities, and speaking exercises, you will build confidence and lay a foundation for future public speaking engagements, whether they happen in class, at conferences, during interviews, or in the workplace. The skills you develop in this course can be applied both to your work as a scholar and to a wide variety of career paths where public engagement and presentation skills are critical, including work in cultural institutions, high schools, and consultancies.

This course will be taught by Michael O'Toole, a PhD alumnus of the Department of Music. Michael leads the GRADTalk program at UChicagoGRAD, where he helps grad students and postdocs improve their public speaking skills and prepare for interviews, presentations, and job talks. Before joining GRADTalk, Michael received taught at DePaul University and the University of Cincinnati. He developed his public speaking skills over several years presenting his research at national and international conferences. He is co-host of the Expand Your Perspective podcast, which highlights graduate research at UChicago, and he organizes the annual Three Minute Thesis Competition, working with grad students to help them prepare concise and engaging three-minute presentations of their research.

ABOUT THE SEMINAR

OPEN TO ALL GRAD STUDENTS & POSTDOCS IN THE HUMANITIES DIVISION, SOCIAL SCIENCES DIVISION, AND DIVINITY SCHOOL

**THURSDAY
1/28, 2/4, 2/11
1:00-2:30 PM CT**

**ONLINE
VIA ZOOM**

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PATHS
PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT AND TRAINING FOR
HUMANISTS AND HUMANISTIC SOCIAL SCIENTISTS