

# ST. PETER'S SEMINARY

## SPEECHWORKS 2016 - 2017

SpeechWorks is a practical, “hands-on” program designed for anyone who will be speaking extensively in their life’s work. Because of the powerful impact the spoken word can have on the lives of others, students in this program need to acknowledge the importance of being lifelong learners of this craft.

This program provides an on-going assessment of each student’s strengths and provides areas for growth and improvement. It examines presentation styles as well as speech construction techniques and helps candidates recognize the strengths of their own presentation style so that they can effectively give voice to their heart and their vision. Being able to structure speeches appropriate to the occasion, to think on one’s feet, and to deliver a message with affect are considered to be high level leadership skills.

### **Outline:**

SpeechWorks sessions will include an examination of the following topics:

- Good News/Bad News Of Public Speaking
- Giving Voice To The Heart
- Speaking So Others Will Listen
- Basic Speech Structures and Stages of Preparing a Speech
- Thinking On Your Feet
- Ten Top Errors Committed By Speakers
- Effective Evaluation (of one’s own presentation style and those of others)
- Geophysics of the Stage
- Assessing Audience Impact
- Storytelling — The Gift Of The Speaker To The Audience
- Gestures: Physical & Vocal
- Using The Voice Effectively
- Audience Listening Styles and the Importance of Gender-flexing
- Working With Difficult Audiences And Their Questions

### **Assignments:**

Students will be required to prepare and deliver three speeches for evaluation by the class plus one storytelling exercise. Self-evaluation is an important component. On-going evaluations will be provided by the course facilitator and a guest evaluator may be present at one of the classes.

### **Session Dates:**

Classes are on Wednesdays 1:30 - 3:20 on the following dates: September 14, 21, October 5, 12, 19, November 9, 16, 30.

Sessions are in the Deacon Room except for November 9<sup>th</sup> which is in the auditorium (if available).