Tips for Gaining Confidence When English is not Your First Language

Writing a Speech:

- For help with topics and format, see a tutor in the SSSC.
- Write a draft of the speech and bring it to the SSSC to check the format.
- For substantial grammar work on the draft, go to The Writing Center and see the specialized non-native speaker tutor. Ask for the non-native speaker tutor at the front desk.
- Visit the Speech professor's office hours.

Preparing to Deliver a Speech:

- Practice delivering the speech with a tutor in the SSSC.
- Practice by recording yourself. Use a video room in the SSSC, the recorder on a cell phone, or a personal digital recorder available at the SSSC lab for semester checkout.
- Practice by using a webcam in the Language Learning Center, LLC Lab.
- Ask someone to record important and/or difficult phrases/vocabulary. Practice by listening and repeating these words/phrases many, many times.
- Check out a personal digital recorder from the SSSC lab.
- Practice with a classmate before or after class. Help each other with format and delivery.
- Practice in front of a mirror.
- Visit the Speech professor's office hours.

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