

SPEECH AND DEBATE

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Speech and debate, also known as forensics, is one of the most rewarding and beneficial educational activities available to students. This course will help students gain valuable skills in several areas. The course is designed to help students develop more confidence in communicating with others both in large groups and interpersonally. In addition, it will help develop academic skills essential to high school and collegiate level work. Students will also learn to conduct academic research, think critically through problems, listen analytically to arguments, understand current social and political issues, better appreciate literature, and develop writing skills. Ultimately, this is a course about how to articulate your thoughts and ideas in a well-developed and effective spoken format. Finally, the student's professional skills for tomorrow's workplace will be enhanced.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES:

- ✓ Speakers will gain experience speaking in front of large audiences and lessen the apprehension they feel when called upon to speak.
- ✓ Speakers will practice the skills of effective speech presentation and remedy common errors in delivery through enjoyable games and activities.
- ✓ Speakers will analyze their ability to listen critically to other speakers and practice the skills that will allow them to improve their listening ability.
- ✓ Speakers will practice the principles of speech organization and research methods.
- ✓ Speakers will practice and improve three modes of delivering speeches: impromptu speeches, prepared speeches with written aids including notecards and manuscripts, and memorized speeches.
- ✓ Speakers will practice and improve the skills of persuasive speaking.
- ✓ Speakers will gain experience and practice in the skills of storytelling and oral interpretation of literature and will learn to be more expressive both physically and vocally.
- ✓ Speakers will become familiar with parliamentary procedure and the nature of parliamentary debate.

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS DURING CLASS INSTRUCTION

Enter the classroom in an orderly manner. Report to your seat BEFORE the bell rings.

Roll is taken immediately after the tardy bell rings. Any student arriving tardy must present a note of explanation. Unexcused tardies will result in demerits.

If you are late to class and a speech is in progress, you should wait at the door until the speaker has finished before entering quickly and quietly.

Bring all materials to class everyday beginning _____.

These materials include:

- 1 pack of 3x5 index cards
- 1 three-ring notebook with loose-leaf paper—for notes, handouts, evaluations, etc.
- pens

GRADING

Grading for the nine weeks is as follows:

Formal Speeches/Formal Debates	(50%)
Impromptu Speeches	(20%)
Quizzes/Homework/Other Assign.	(20%)
Daily Participation/Speech Exercises/Cooperation	(10%)

Cheating includes the actual giving or receiving of any unauthorized aid or assistance, or the actual giving or receiving of unfair advantage on ANY form of academic work. Any student caught cheating will be reported to the Honor Code Council.

Plagiarism means to steal and use the ideas or writings of another as one's own. Any student caught plagiarizing will receive a zero and will be reported to the Honor Code Council.

EXTRA CREDIT WORK

No extra credit assignments intended to raise averages will be given to any student regardless of that student's grade (whether it be failing or borderline A). Your grade is based solely on the work you have accomplished by the end of each grading period.

ABSENCES AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR WORK

Students will be prepared with daily assignments by the appropriate deadline. These assignments will not be collected late and the student will receive a zero.

Formal speeches must be given on the date specified to receive full credit. Any student who is unprepared may give their speech the following day, but will receive no higher than a 69/F, regardless of the quality of the work. After three days, the speech cannot be given, and the student will receive a zero.

Students will be allowed to make up speeches and other work in the case of excused absences. If a student is absent the day before a speech is to be given, they will be expected to give their speech the day they return. Students absent the day their speech should be given will give the speech the day they return. Other class work must be made up within a specific time period.

After an absence, students are held responsible for getting their assignment from the teacher either before or after class. (DO NOT leave class without knowing what is expected of you.)

Students will not be allowed to make up work in the case of unexcused absences.

If you take a pre-planned of ANY kind (i.e. Model UN Conference, sports tournament, field trip, etc.), you will be expected to meet with the teacher prior to your departure in order to schedule make-up work.

Students and parents may access updated material for this class at pcspeechanddebate.weebly.com . The site is updated each weekend.

NOTE TO STUDENTS: All rules found in the Parent/Student Handbook will apply in my classroom.

NOTE TO PARENTS: If you need to get in contact with me for any reason, please feel free to call me here at school. If I am unavailable to come to the phone, please leave your name and number (596-7247 ext. 25). I will get back to you as soon as I am available.

SPEECH AND DEBATE OUTLINE

◆ **FORMAL SPEECHES:**

Time Limits: Each speech assignment carries with it an established minimum time limit. These should be closely observed.

Mode of Delivery: Students will deliver speeches with the use of notecards or manuscripts. One speech will be memorized and no written aids will be used. At any time, if a speech is read or appears to be read, the highest grade received will be a 69/F.

Formal speeches will be accompanied by an outline to be turned in, unless otherwise specified.

One to two speeches during the term may be videotaped to allow students the opportunity to self-evaluate.

Introduction Speech (4 minutes minimum).....(extemporaneous (i.e. notecards))
Visual Aid Speech (5 minutes minimum).....(extemporaneous/visual aid(s))
Demonstration Speech (7 minutes minimum).....(extemporaneous/visual aids)
Current Event Speech (5 minutes minimum).....(memorized/visual aids optional)
Job Interview.....(extemporaneous)
Persuasive speech (7 minutes minimum).....(manuscript/visual aids optional)
Motivational speech (7 minutes minimum).....(extemporaneous or memorized)
After-Dinner speech (5 minutes minimum).....(extemporaneous or memorized)
Oral Interpretation of Literature (5 min. minimum)....(manuscript)
Famous speech (time permitting).....(manuscript or memorized)
Commercial (time permitting).....(videotaped)

◆ **FORMAL DEBATES**

Lincoln-Douglass Debate.....(teams)
Parliamentary Debate (i.e. Student Congress).....(teams)
Legal Debate (time permitting)(teams)

◆ **IMPROMPTU SPEECHES**

These speeches will be 1-2 minutes in length with only minutes to prepare.

◆ **QUIZZES**

Students will be given quizzes when necessary to evaluate their understanding of vocabulary, methods, and other information being practiced in class. These quizzes may or may not be announced in advance.

◆ **HOMEWORK/OTHER ASSIGNMENTS**

Students will be required to complete assignments from their textbook, evaluate speeches of classmates, evaluate written speeches or speeches on TV/Internet, and will conduct a self-evaluation using their videotaped speech.

◆ **CLASS PARTICIPATION/SPEECH EXERCISES/COOPERATION**

Students will receive one grade at mid-quarter and one at the end of the nine weeks that reflects their daily preparation, participation and cooperation in exercises, and effort as both a speaker and a listener.

◆ **FINAL EXAM**

Students will deliver a final speech using only one notecard. This speech will count 20% of the final grade, with each 9 weeks counting 40%.