**Communication 25: Argumentation and Debate Syllabus**

Fall Semester 2013

Instructor: Vanessa Buldo

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**This class is hybrid so we will meet four times face to face this semester in Business 43.**

**You must attend all four meetings, but may choose between the two time slots.**

**Class meeting dates:** August 12th 3-4:30 pm or 4:30-6pm

August 26th 3-4:30 pm or 4:30-6pm

October 2nd 3-4:30 pm or 4:30-6pm

November 18th 3-4:30 pm or 4:30-6pm

**Textbook:**

Reike, Sillars, and Peterson. Argumentation and Critical Decision Making.

8th ed. Pearson, 2013.

**Course Outcomes:**

After the completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Critically formulate and evaluate oral arguments using logical reasoning.
2. Construct and deliver dynamic and competent presentations that are adapted to the purpose and audience.
3. Utilize research materials that incorporate sufficient, credible, and relevant evidence.
4. Choose appropriate organizational patterns.
5. Analyze the effectiveness of communication through constructive critique.

**Course Objectives:**

In the process of completing this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Recognize, develop, and defend arguments orally.
2. Use research and organization to formulate arguments for oral presentation and refutation.
3. Evaluate others’ arguments and oral presentations.
4. Analyze audiences in order to formulate effective arguments.
5. Recognize fallacies and illogical arguments. Explore solutions to current issues/problems in society

**Assignments**:

Art as Argumentation 100

Persuasion Argument 100

Controversial Debate 150

Outlines and Briefs) 50

Participation 100

Discussion Boards 100

Quizzes (3) 200

Final Paper 100

Final 100

The following numerical guidelines will be used in the assignment of final grades.

900-1000 = A

899-800 = B

799-700 = C

699-600 = D

599-0 = F

Dropping and adding classes

It is the student’s responsibility to add or drop a class by the designated date. Failure to drop a class prior to the drop date will result in an F in the class.

Late and missed assignments:

1. A presentation that is not presented on the assigned date will receive zero points for that assignment. **NO LATE WORK ACCEPTED**. No attachments by e-mail accepted for any assignment. If a student wants an assignment reviewed prior to the due he/she must provide a hard copy.
2. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor and inform him or her of any problem.
3. Accommodations will be made for students with a verifiable medical excuse.

**Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated and will result in a zero on an assignment and proper consequences for all students involved.**

Classroom Deportment:

Each student is expected to respect the rights of the other students in the class and the instructor. The exploration of controversial ideas is an essential component of this class. Students who do not behave in a respectful manner will be asked to drop the class. Turn cell phones and laptops off before coming to class. Text messaging during class is not appropriate. Since this class is built on an interactive environment, student attendance is critical and required.

Student Rights:

So that students are fully aware of their rights and responsibilities they are encouraged to become familiar with the Schedule of Courses. Students with disabilities should identify themselves so that appropriate accommodations can be made.

**Daily Schedule**

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| **Week 1**  **8-12 - 8-18** | Orientation to class  History of Argumentation  Chapter 1 | **Class Meeting Orientation**  **Monday August 12th**  **3-4:30pm or 4:30-6 pm** |
| **Week 2**  **8-19 - 8-25** | The role of audience  Critical Thinking  Chapter 1 |  |
| **Week 3**  **8-26 - 9-01** | Ethical Standards  Fields of Argumentation  Chapter 1 | **Class Meeting Orientation**  **Monday August 26th**  **3-4:30 pm or 4:30-6 pm**  **Art As Argumentation Speeches Presented** |
| **Week 4**  **9-02 - 9-08** | Prima Facie  Propositions and Burden of Proof  Chapter 2 |  |
| **Week 5**  **9-09 - 9-15** | **Quiz #1** Chapters 1 and 2 |  |
| **Week 6**  **9-16 - 9-22** | Propositions and analysis  Chapter 3  Final Essays Assigned |  |
| **Week 7**  **9-23 - 9-29** | **Quiz #2** Chapter 3 |  |
| **Week 8**  **9-30 - 10-6** | **Persuasive Speeches** | **Class Meeting Wednesday**  **October 2nd 3-4:30 pm or 4:30-6 pm Persuasive Speeches Presented** |
| **Week 9**  **10-7 - 10-13** | Structuring Reasoning |  |
| **Week 10**  **10-14 - 10-20** | Analyzing Propositions  Chapter 4 |  |
| **Week 11**    **10-21 - 10-27** | **Quiz #3** Chapters 3 and 4 |  |
| **Week 12**  **10-28 - 11-3** | Toulmin’s Model  Chapter 5 |  |
| **Week 13**  **11-4 - 11-10** | Credible Research  Chapter 6 |  |
| **Week 14**  **11-11 - 11-17** | Reasoning with my Audience  Chapter 7 |  |
| **Week 15**  **11-18 - 11-24** | **Debate Speeches**  **Final Essays Due** | **Class Meeting Monday Nov. 18th 3-4:30 pm or 4:30-6 pm Essays Due and Debates Presented** |
| **Week 16**  **11-25 - 12-1** | Fallacies in Reasoning  Chapter 8 |  |
| **Week 17**  **12-2 - 12-8** | Final Exam Prep. |  |
| **Week 18**  **12-9 - 12-12** | **Final Exam Chapters 1-8** | **Must be completed by**  **5 pm Thursday**  **December 12th.** |

\*Note: this syllabus is subject to change depending on the needs of the class.