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**Communication 25: Argumentation and Debate Syllabus**

Fall Semester 2014

Comm. 25 59161

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Office location: Soc. 38

Office Hours: Monday 2-3 pm, Tuesday 1-2 pm, Wednesday 2-3 pm,

Thursday 1-2 pm, Fridays 10-11 am.

**This class is hybrid, therefore, we will meet four times face to face this semester in Soc. 36. You must attend all four meetings in order to fulfill the oral communication component and pass the class.**

**Class meeting dates:**

August 15th 11am -2pm

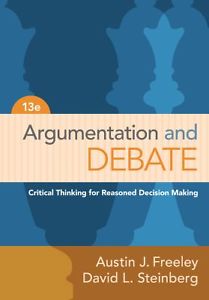
September 26st 11am-2pm

October 17nd 11am-2pm

November 14th 11am-2pm

**Textbook:**

Freeley, A. J., & Steinberg, D.L.(2014). Argumentation and Debate. (Custom) Boston, MA: Wadsworth.



**Course Description:**

This course is designed to provide students with the techniques necessary for effective public argument. Analysis, reasoning, advocacy, and criticism of ideas. Emphasis on deriving conclusions based on valid evidence and sound inferences without using fallacies of thought and language. Demonstration of basic argumentation principles through a variety of oral presentations and written assignments. This course focuses on how to develop effective, ethical, reasoned arguments accompanied by the critical thinking skills required to judge the validity of others’ arguments. This course fulfills the G.E. requirement for Critical Thinking (Foundation A3). G.E. credit requires a grade of “C” or better.

**Student Learning 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

**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.

**Assignments**:

Presentations:

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.**

**Daily Schedule**

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| **Week 1**  **8-11 - 8-17** | Orientation to class  Chapter 1 | **Class Meeting Orientation**  **Friday August 15th**  **11am-2pm** |
| **Week 2**  **8-18 - 8-24** | The role of audience  Critical Thinking  Chapter 1 |  |
| **Week 3**  **8-25 - 8-31** | Ethical Standards  Fields of Argumentation  Chapter 2, 5 |  |
| **Week 4**  **9-01 - 9-07** | **Quiz #1** due by midnight on 9/7  Chapters 1, 2, 5 |  |
| **Week 5**  **9-08 - 9-14** | Prima Facie  Propositions and Burden of Proof  Chapter 6 |  |
| **Week 6**  **9-15 - 9-21** | Propositions and analysis  Chapter 7  Final Essays Assigned |  |
| **Week 7**  **9-22 - 9-28** | Analyzing Propositions  Chapter 7 | **Class Meeting**  **September 26th Friday 11am-2pm**  **Art As Argumentation Speeches Presented** |
| **Week 8**  **9-29- 10-5** | Persuasive Speeches Assigned |  |
| **Week 9**  **10-6 - 10-12** | **Quiz #2** due midnight on 10/12  Chapter 6, 7 | Read Chapters 11 and 12 to support what you already learned |
| **Week 10**  **10-13 - 10-19** | Traditions of argumentation  Chapter 3 | **Class Meeting**  **October 17 Friday 11am-2pm Persuasive Speeches Presented** |
| **Week 11**    **10-20 - 10-26** | Toulmin’s Model |  |
| **Week 12**  **10-27 - 11-2** | **Quiz #3** due midnight on 11/2  Chapter 3 |  |
| **Week 13**  **11-3 - 11-9** | Credible Research  Chapter 8 |  |
| **Week 14**  **11-10 - 11-16** | Tests of Evidence  Chapter 9 | **Class Meeting Friday Nov. 14th 11am-2pm Essays Due and Debates Presented** |
| **Week 15**  **11-17 - 11-23** | **Debate Speeches**  **Final Essays Due** | Read over Chapter 17 |
| **Week 16**  **11-24 - 11-30** | Fallacies in Reasoning  Chapter 4 | Read chapters 13 and 14 to support what you already know |
| **Week 17**  **12-1 - 12-7** | Final Exam Preparation |  |
| **Week 18**  **12-9 - 12-12** | **Final Exam** | **Must be completed by**  **5 pm Thursday**  **December 11th.** |

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