

**Communication 180 (CRN: 15067)**  
**Argumentation and Debate**  
**Imperial Valley College**  
**Winter 2024**

Instructor: Professor Manning

Email: professor\_bk@hotmail.com (preferred)

Office Hours: (via Zoom) Weekdays 5:15  
- 6:00 pm.

Or by Appointment.

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Class Dates: January 2 – February 2, 2024

Class Meeting Days and Time: Monday – Friday: 3:00 – 5:10 pm

**(No Class Monday January 15 – ML King Day)**

Class Format/Modality: Online Synchronous (via Zoom)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7083557558?pwd=bKJKxSab3bJIBzGe22HsC9nK2Rcnq1.1>

Meeting ID: 708 355 7558

Passcode: M7a8TT

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An introduction to debate, with emphasis on the creation and refutation of arguments concerning current social, political, and legal issues. (C-ID: COMM 120) (CSU/UC)

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to: 1. Write out a case for an argumentative debate. 2. Write and submit five properly-worded debate propositions. 3. Use logos to support their arguments during the debate process.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Create, critique, and refute arguments.
2. Identify fallacious argumentation.
3. Be familiar with the most commonly debated topics (i.e., gun control, capital punishment, legalization of prostitution, animal rights, euthanasia, etc.) and the arguments that are typically made in these debates.
4. Participate in formal classroom debates.
5. Understand the responsibilities of the proposition vs. opposition as well as the role of each speaker on the proposition and opposition teams.

**OPTIONAL TEXTBOOK**

Argumentation and Debate, by Freeley & Steinberg (13th ed)  
ISBN-13: 978-1133311607  
ISBN-10: 1133311601

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS and INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS**

This is a debate class. Therefore, completing the assigned debate speeches are MANDATORY. They must be completed to pass the class.

This class will also have a variety of lectures, quizzes, discussions, tests and assignments. For a complete list and point values, see the latest information on Canvas.

### **COURSE GRADING BASED ON COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Final Grades: Your final grade in class will be determined based on how many points you have earned on all the assignments combined. However, if you do not complete the assigned mandatory speeches, you will not pass the class, regardless if you scored above a certain percentage. The grade breakdown is as follows:

A= 90% - 100% B= 80% - 89% C= 70% - 79% D= 60% - 69% F= below 60%

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY (Artificial Intelligence - AI)**

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

### **COURSE POLICIES**

**Attendance/Drop Policy:** It is the student's responsibility to drop all classes in which they are no longer attending – I may not get around to dropping you. I will withdraw a student after the add/drop deadline due to excessive absences. In an online class, I count completion of quizzes, assignments, and discussion forums submitted on time as “attending” the class. Students who remain enrolled in a class beyond the published withdrawal deadline, will receive an evaluative letter grade in this class (A, B, C, D, F).

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped.

- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

**Late Work Policy:** Any assignment submitted after the due date published on Canvas will be considered late. Should you submit an assignment late, your final grade on the assignment will be penalized by 10%. After that, late work will be penalized at an additional 10% per day. Late work will only be accepted up to 5 days from the day it is due for a maximum 50% deduction. **Only emergencies are acceptable exceptions to this rule.**

### **ANTICIPATED CLASS TOPICS/DISCUSSIONS**

(Instructor reserves the right to modify as needed).

History of Argumentation  
Functions of Argumentation  
The Elements of Arguments  
Ethics  
Locating and Evaluating Evidence  
Listening  
Fallacies and Appeals  
Persuasion  
Delivering a Great Speech  
Debates  
Peer Feedback  
Fake News and Critical Thinking