

Imperial Valley College: Spring 2013
Syllabus: Speech 180 Argumentation and Debate

Instructor: Sabrina Worsham
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Class: Monday 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Office Hours: Before and after class, Wed 11:40-1:25, and by appointment.

Required Text: Heinrichs, Jay. *Thank You For Arguing: What Aristotle, Lincoln, and Homer Simpson Can Teach Us About the Art of Persuasion*. New York: Three Rivers Press, 2007. Print.

Recommended Preparation: Speech 100

Course Description: “An introduction to debate, with emphasis on the creation and refutation of arguments concerning current social, political and legal issues.”

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

Recognize and create sound and complete arguments;

Demonstrate an understanding of the responsibilities of the proposition and opposition teams, as well as the role of each speaker on the team;

Compile arguments and evidence to support various sides of current controversial topics.

Course Content Summary: This is a practical skills class. Material will focus on developing students' research and critical thinking skills. Students will be trained on how to construct and deployed reasoned arguments across multiple contexts.

Attendance: This is a skills based class and EVERY class is crucial. In class activities and assignments CANNOT be made up. On-time attendance is necessary for the successful completion of the class. If you must miss class for a verifiable emergency, please secure documentation.* Additionally, debate is often a partnered activity. Missing one of your three debates will result in a 25 point deduction from your final grade.

Assignments: It is your responsibility to complete all assignments in a timely matter and submit them via the appropriate channels (in person or electronically, depending on the assignment). No late work will be accepted. All assignments need to be typed, unless otherwise specified).

Language: In an effort to create and maintain a critical, comfortable and equitable environment for everyone, any language that is racist, sexist, homophobic, or that discriminates against any person or group will be discussed in the classroom. Any such language in any speech, assignment, or classroom discussion may result in a failing grade for that speech or assignment and the occurrence will be documented in case any further disciplinary actions are warranted.

Ethics Policy: Each student is expected to maintain academic ethics and honesty in all its forms, including but not limited to, cheating and plagiarism as defined hereafter:

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND STUDENT CONDUCT GUIDELINES

Academic Misconduct Policy: *Academic misconduct includes misconduct associated with the classroom, laboratory or clinical learning process. Some examples of academic misconduct are cheating and plagiarism.*

Cheating includes, but is not limited to, (a) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, assessment tests or examinations; (b) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the faculty member in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; or (c) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the college faculty or staff.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use of paraphrased or directly quoted published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials. Information gathered from the internet and not properly identified is also considered plagiarism.

Any student found by a faculty member to have committed academic misconduct may be subject to sanctions as determined by the faculty member. Sanctions MAY include a warning, grade adjustment, and course failure. Consequences for plagiarism include a zero on the assignment and a referral to Sergio Lopez, Dean of Student Development and Campus Events.

Please note: Anyone who disrupts the learning process in the classroom will be asked to leave, forfeiting the day's points. Examples of disruptive behavior include the following:

- Talking while the instructor or another person is addressing the class
- Talking while students are making presentations
- Inappropriate non-verbal written behavior, inappropriate language, etc.
- Entering class late or leaving early
- Texting and/or using electronic devices for non-class purposes during class time

Discipline Policy

"Imperial Valley College is maintained for the purpose of providing students in the community with programs of instruction in higher education. The College is concerned with the fostering of knowledge, the search for truth and the dissemination of ideas. Students shall assume an obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the college's function as an educational institution. An instructor MAY REMOVE a student for the day of removal and the next class meeting. Such action must be immediately reported to Sergio Lopez, Dean of Student Development and Campus Events. During the period of removal the student MAY NOT return without the consent of the instructor.

Accommodations: Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) office as soon as possible. The DSPS office is located in the Health Sciences Building, room 2117. The telephone number 355-6312.

Evaluation of Student Progress:

Home Work (4 @ 25 pts)	100
Debate/ Prep (3 @ 50 pts)	150
MIDTERM	100
Debate Flows (6 @ 15 pts)	90
FINAL DAY	20
Judge's Ballots (6 total)	40
Total:	500

A = 450-500 pts
B = 400-449 pts
C = 350-399 pts
D = 300-349 pts
F = 299<