

**Basic Course Information**

Semester	<b>Fall 2016</b>	Instructor Name	<b>Sabrina Worsham</b>
Course Title & #	<b>COMM 180: Arg &amp; Debate</b>	Email	<b>sabrina.worsham@imperial.edu</b>
CRN #	<b>11104</b>		<b>sabrinaworsham@gmail.com</b>
Room	<b>315</b>	Office	<b>316</b>
Class Dates	8/17/16 to 12/09/16	Office Hours	<b>M 9:40-10:40 T-Th 520-620 &amp; by appointment</b>
Class Days	<b>Wednesday</b>	Office Phone #	<b>(760) 352-8320 X6369</b>
Class Times	<b>6:30 PM -9:40 PM</b>	Office contact for emergencies	<b>Ms. Maria Sell 760-355-6337</b>
Units	<b>3 unit course</b>		

**Course Description**

“An introduction to debate, with emphasis on the creation and refutation of arguments concerning current social, political, and legal issues. (CSU,UC),” IVC

**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. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)
2. Write and submit five properly-worded debate propositions (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)
3. Use logos to support their arguments during the debate process. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)

**Course Objectives**

- “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,” IVC

**Textbook & Additional Materials**

Heinrichs, Jay. Thank You For Arguing: What Aristotle, Lincoln, and Homer Simpson Can Teach Us About the Art of Persuasion, revised and updated edition. New York: Three Rivers Press, 2013. Print. ISBN-10: **0307341445** | ISBN-13: **978-0307341440**

Three additional parliamentary packets that will be provided on Canvas.

**Course Requirements and Instructional Methods**

- In-Class Debates:** Parliamentary style debates. These debates involve topic announcement, prep time, and a full debate. Times will increase as the semester continues. You will debate with a variety of partners. You will also learn to judge debates and will judge throughout the semester.
- In-Class Activities:** In-Class Activities: These activities are done in class and help teach the basics of argument construction and debate. These activities CANNOT be made up outside of the scheduled class time.
- Exams:** The exams are broken into two parts. The first exam is on the textbook and basic argument construction. The second exam focuses on Parliamentary Debate. The exams will be a mix of fill-in-the-blank, short answer, essay, and application questions. The exams cover the required readings and in-class lectures.
- Debate Flow:** Flow a U.S. Collegiate parliamentary debate (45 min-1 hour). Flows are to be done by hand and are due at the BEGINNING of class on the day assigned.
- Reader's Notes:** 1 page of handwritten notes per chapter in the textbook. These notes are due at the BEGINNING of class on the day assigned. You should identify key terms, write any questions, connect to personal understanding, etc.

**“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). In general, NO late work will be accepted, even with documentation,” SW.

**“Out of Class Assignments:** The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement,” IVC

### Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

In Class Activities	220 points possible:
Reader's Notes	190 points possible
Exams	260 points possible
Debates	150 points possible
Flows	130 points possible
Preps	50 points possible

Total Possible: 1000

A = 900-1000  
 B = 800-899  
 C = 700-799  
 D = 600-699  
 F = 599<

### Attendance

- “A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online 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. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and 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,” IVC
- “Documentation MUST be provided and arrangements made ahead of time. An excused absence does NOT excuse the work done and activities missed,” SW

“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. AGAIN, please remember that in-class activities and debates cannot be made up. Do not miss my class.\* SW

**REMINDER: scheduled doctor's appointments, scheduled dentist appointments, school appointments, job interviews, work meetings/etc... are NOT urgent situations. You know your school schedule. Please plan accordingly. Be in class and be prepared.**

### Classroom Etiquette

**“Timeliness: Arrive in enough time to be settled, signed in, and ready to go when class begins. Being late is rude, disruptive, and anxiety-inducing for many. Additionally, missing class hurts you and your peers. Be here, be ready, let's learn and create a positive community.**

**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,” SW**

**Recording lectures/Social Media: DO NOT record my lectures and/or take my picture for use on the internet. DO NOT use social media during my classes.**

- “Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the General Catalog.
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children,” IVC

## Academic Honesty

- “Plagiarism is to take and present as one’s own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to correctly ‘cite a source’, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials, or assisting others in using materials, which are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General School Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment ;(c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment, (e) use of a commercial term paper service,” IVC

### Additional Help – Discretionary Section and Language

- “Blackboard support center: <http://bbcrm.edusupportcenter.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=8543>
- Learning Labs: There are several ‘labs’ on campus to assist you through the use of computers, tutors, or a combination. Please consult your college map for the Math Lab, Reading & Writing Lab, and Learning Services (library). Please speak to the instructor about labs unique to your specific program
- Library Services: There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the learning center, study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources,” IVC

## Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

“Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313 if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations,” IVC

## Student Counseling and Health Services

“Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee. We now also have a full time mental health counselor. For information see <http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/>. The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6310,” IVC

## Student Rights and Responsibilities

“Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at [http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762](http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762),” IVC

## Information Literacy

“Imperial Valley College is dedicated to help students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at <http://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/>,” IVC

## Anticipated Class Schedule / Calendar

Date	Assignment Due	Score	Possible
<b>8/17</b>	ICA #1: Intro to class		20

Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus – COMM 180

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<b>8/24</b>	HW: RN: Ch 1-5		25
	ICA # 2		20
<b>9/1</b>	HW: RN: Ch 6-10		25
	ICA # 3		20
<b>9/7</b>	HW: RN: Ch 11-15		25
	ICA # 4		20
<b>9/14</b>	HW: RN: Ch 16-20		25
	ICA # 5		20
<b>9/21</b>	HW: RN: Ch 21-24		25
	ICA # 6		20
<b>9/28</b>	ICA # 7		20
	Exam 1: Arg Theory		110
<b>10/5</b>	RN: Packet 1		25
	ICA # 8		20
	HW: Flow		20
<b>10/12</b>	RN: Packet 2		25
	ICA # 9		20
	HW: Flow		20
<b>10/19</b>	RN: Debate Bible		25
	ICA # 10		20
	HW: Flow		20
<b>10/26</b>	ICA # 11		20
	Exam 2		110
<b>11/2</b>	Debates		30
	HW: Prep		10
	HW: Flow		20
<b>11/9</b>	Debates		30
	HW: Prep		10
	HW: Flow		20
<b>11/16</b>	Debates		30
	HW: Prep		10
	HW: Flow		20
<b>11/30</b>	Debates		30
	HW: Prep		10
	HW: Flow		20
<b>12/7</b>	Debates		30
	HW: Prep		10
	HW: Flow		20

