Basic Course Information

Semester:	**Fall 2024**	Instructor Name:	**Dr. Elvinet Piard**
Course Title & #:	**COMM 180 Argumentation & Debate**	Email:	**elvinet.piard@imperial.edu**
CRN #:	**10513**		
Classroom:	**Bldg 2700 Rm 2721**	Office #:	**203-A1**
Class Dates:	**Aug 12 – Dec 7, 2024**	Office Hours:	**M/W 3:30-5:30p**
Class Days:	**TR**	Office Phone #:	**(760) 355-6150**
Class Times:	**1:00p – 2:25p**		
Units:	**3**	Class Format/Modality:	**In-person**

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)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

None.

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 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. Demonstrate effective verbal and nonverbal delivery skills while managing speaking anxiety in a variety of faculty-supervised and faculty-evaluated oral presentations in the English language
2. Compose and deliver sound and compelling oral arguments tailored to diverse audiences in a variety of settings and contexts, demonstrating rhetorical sensitivity to equity, inclusion, belonging, and accessibility
3. Apply rhetorical strategies and principles of logic to analyze and evaluate historical and contemporary public discourse
4. Refine the use of ethos, pathos, and logos (i.e., the three Aristotelian appeals) while applying rhetorical organizational strategies to create and arrange oral arguments in the English language
5. Evaluate the relevance and reliability of primary and secondary sources; skillfully select, summarize, and employ different types of evidence to support arguments in oral debate
6. Critically listen to classmates' oral arguments and provide constructive feedback in the English language
7. Demonstrate ethical communication strategies when preparing and participating in live oral presentations and debates, employing honesty, accuracy, active listening, credible sources, unbiased terminology, and sound reasoning while avoiding condescension, distortion of information, use of fallacies, and degrading and/or intimidating language.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

1. John Meany and Kate Shuster. 2003. *On That Point! An Introduction to Parliamentary Debate. Discipline Classic International Debate Education Association*. ISBN: 978-0972054119 PDF Version: https://tinyurl.com/On-That-Point to prepare for quizzes, prepare for debates, and participate in lecture/discussions.
2. OER Textbook: Various. 2023. The Debatabase Book. International Debate Education Association. URL: https://idebate.net/resources/debatabase for debate preparation.
3. Britannica ProCon: https://www.procon.org/ for debate preparation.
4. Opposing Viewpoints – comprehensive coverage of a wide range of topics; database available via IVC library.
5. CQ Researcher – provides summaries and in-depth analysis of current topics; database available via IVC library.
6. *Inherit the Wind* (1999) feature film - https://youtu.be/NYCfo4hVolQ - Based on a real-life case in 1925.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Lecture, discussion, group work, debates, debate cases/position papers, critiques of debates, quizzes, homework.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Debates 60%

Debate Preparation (group work, homework, assignments) 20%

Debate Critiques 10%

Attendance 10%

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: A student who fails to attend the first class is automatically dropped from the course. The course has 32 class meetings for Fall 2024. Each class meeting is valued at 5 points. Students are granted 2 excused absences in a semester. Any class missed after the first 2 will result in -10 points for each scheduled class meeting missed, which will affect not only points for attendance but overall course grade. It is the student's responsibility to drop all classes they are no longer attending. However, a student may be withdrawn after the add/drop deadline due to excessive absences. 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).

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.**

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1 Aug 13, 15	Syllabus *Inherit the Wind* (1999)	
Week 2 Aug 20, 22	Introduction to Debate	Position Paper #1 due (2 pages) Chapter 1-2 (Quiz 1)
Week 3 Aug 27, 29	Taking Notes and Topic Interpretation	Chapter 3-4 (Quiz 2)
Week 4 Sept 3, 5	Argument Analysis and Case Construction	Chapter 5-7 (Quiz 3)
Week 5 Sept 10, 12	Research and Evidence	Chapter 8 (Quiz 4)
Week 6 Sept 17, 19	Opposition Strategy Points of Information	Chapters 9-12 (Quiz 5)
Week 7 Sept 24, 26	Debate Round 1	
Week 8 Oct 1, Oct 3	Debate Round 1	
Week 9 Oct 8, 10	Debate Round 2	
Week 10 Oct 15, 17	Debate Round 2	
Week 11 Oct 22, 24	Debate Round 3	
Week 12 Oct 29, 31	Debate Round 3	
Week 13 Nov 5, 7	Debate Round 4	
Week 14 Nov 12, 14	Debate Round 4	
Week 15 Nov 19, 21	Debate Round 4	
Week 16 Nov 26, 28	Thanksgiving Holiday Nov 25-30 – No classes	
Week 17 Dec 3	Final Exam	

Subject to change without prior notice