



IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2024	Instructor Name:	Patrick Kjellander
Course Title & #:	COMM 180 Argumentation	Email:	patrick.kjellander@imperial.edu
CRN #:	11167	Webpage:	
Classroom:	N/A	Office #:	https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/4710979225
Class Dates:	08/12/24 – 12/07/24	Office Hours:	Mon/Wed 1-3 PM + via appointment
Class Days:	N/A	Office Phone #:	
Class Times:	N/A	Emergency Contact:	
Units:	3	Class Format/Modality:	Online Asynchronous

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)

N/A

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. Persuasively create, refute, and support oral arguments in English with sensitivity to audience, context, and setting.
2. Employ critical thinking to evaluate the relevance, accuracy, and credibility of supporting evidence.
3. Demonstrate effective verbal and nonverbal delivery techniques while presenting oral arguments and supporting evidence.

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.



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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.

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 will withdraw a student after the add/drop deadline if they stop participating in the class. Students who remain enrolled in my class past the withdrawal deadline will receive a letter grade (A, B, C, D, or 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 10 days from the day it is due. **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.

Class Schedule

Module	Class Topics/Discussions	Assignments
1	Course Introduction	Discussion + Quiz
2	Functions of Argumentation	Intro to Argumentation Quiz
3	The Elements of Arguments	Arguments Discussion + Quiz
4	Ethics	Ethics Discussion + Quiz
5	Locating and Evaluating Evidence	Evidence Quiz
6	Listening	Listening Discussion + Quiz
7	Midterm	Midterm
8	Fallacies and Appeals	Fallacy Discussion + Quiz
9	Persuasion	Persuasion Discussion + Quiz
10	Delivering a Great Speech	Speech Delivery Quiz
11	Debates	Debate Speeches
12	Peer Feedback	Peer Feedback
13	Debates	Debate Speeches
14	Peer Feedback	Peer Feedback
15	Fake News and Critical Thinking	Fake News Discussion + Critical Thinking Quiz
16	Final Exam	Final Exam

Subject to change without prior notice. For the most updated and recent information please refer to Canvas