

BUTTE COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

CMST 12 - Forensics (Speech and Debate)

3 Unit(s)

Prerequisite(s): NONE

Recommended Prep: NONE

Transfer Status: CSU

25.5 hours Lecture

76.5 hours Lab

This course prepares students for intercollegiate speech and debate tournaments and/or community events. Preparation includes practice, research, writing and participation in a variety of public presentations. Community events, as well as forensics events, such as debate, platform, limited preparation, oral interpretation, and readers' theatre are emphasized. (C-ID COMM 160B). Since skills/proficiencies are enhanced by supervised repetition and practice, this course may be repeated three times.

II. OBJECTIVES

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

- A. Demonstrate improvement in the preparation and presentation of formal debate and/or individual events in competition.
- B. Develop and apply analytical and critical thinking abilities to the areas of literature, public speaking, and debate.
- C. Demonstrate knowledge of tournament organization, categories of competition, and requirements for each individual event.
- D. Demonstrate information competency related to research and preparation within the context of community events and/or intercollegiate speech and debate.
- E. Write for the ear (spoken word) as well as for the eye (written word).
- F. Integrate constructive criticism from a variety of sources including coaches, peers, tournament judges, and self-reflection for the purpose of content and delivery improvements.

III. COURSE CONTENT

A. Unit Titles/Suggested Time Schedule

Lecture	
<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Overview of forensics including debate formats, platform events, oral interpretation events, and/or community events	2.00
2. Communication ethics and tournament/ team etiquette	2.00
3. Information competency and researching for speech and debate events	5.00
4. Applying communication theories and principles to forensics and/or community events	3.00
5. Debate	3.00
6. Platform speaking	3.00
7. Limited preparation speaking	3.00
8. Oral interpretation	3.00
9. Using constructive criticism for improvement	1.50
Total Hours	25.50

Lab

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Researching for event participation	16.00
2. Practicing with coaches and peer coaches for competitive forensics and/or community event participation	30.00
3. Participating in competitive forensics and/or community events	24.00
4. Post-event peer- and coach-guided evaluating and reflecting	6.50
Total Hours	76.50

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Lecture
- B. Guest Speakers
- C. Collaborative Group Work
- D. Class Activities
- E. Field Trips
- F. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- G. Discussion
- H. Demonstrations
- I. Reading Assignments
- J. Multimedia Presentations
- K. Peer evaluations
- L. One-to-one coaching
- M. Guided experience (performance before audience in Butte classes)
- N. Performance in intercollegiate speech competitions and/or public events

V. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Research Projects
- B. Oral Presentation
- C. Demonstration
- D. Class participation
- E. Written Assignments
- F. Evaluation of on-campus activities by instructor
- G. Performance evaluation by professional judges at intercollegiate tournaments and/or public events
- H. 1500 word writing requirement met through: critiques, preparation of forensic and community event presentations

VI. EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Reading Assignments
 - 1. Read the online article "Building Team Cohesion: Becoming 'We' instead of 'Me'" located on the National Forensics website and analyze their own behavior in relation to the author's argument and come to class prepared to discuss.
 - 2. Read the Emory Debate Manual provided electronically via blackboard and come prepared with questions related to Parliamentary Debate.
- B. Writing Assignments
 - 1. Construct "stock" issue responses by analyzing various debate propositions and constructing affirmative and opposing cases for policy and non-policy topics.

2. View video taped performances, analyze critical feedback from judges, peers and coaches and prepare a self-evaluation paper.
3. Research relevant social problems and prepare a 10 minute competitive platform event with accompanying speaking outline and references.

C. Out-of-Class Assignments

1. View your own videotaped performances and/or selected award winning forensics videos and/or community events for the purposes of analyzing and improving individual performances.
2. Participate in at least one forensics tournament competing in a minimum of two or more events such as debate and impromptu speaking or platform speaking, impromptu and oral interpretation of literature.

VII. **RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION**

Materials Other Than Textbooks:

- A. Current event publications, sample speeches, instructor-created resources, or other materials as assigned by the instructor.

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