

Las Positas College
3000 Campus Hill Drive
Livermore, CA 94551-7650
(925) 424-1000
(925) 443-0742 (Fax)

Course Outline for CMST 48

ACTIVITIES IN FORENSICS

Effective: Fall 2016

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

CMST 48 — ACTIVITIES IN FORENSICS — 1.00 - 4.00 units

Competition in the areas of public speaking and oral interpretation. Preparation, including research and writing; practice; and participation and performance in intercollegiate speech and debate tournaments.

1.00 - 4.00 Units Lab

Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

	<u>MIN</u>	<u>MAX</u>
Lab Hours:	54.00	216.00
Total Hours:	54.00	216.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 4

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

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

- A. Distinguish major types of competitive speeches;
- B. Employ the tools of information competency including but not limited to logical thinking, effective advocacy, appropriate use of forms of support, and critical deliberation for event preparation;
- C. Exhibit the ability to write for performance;
- D. Demonstrate speaking effectiveness and confidence by managing communication apprehension;
- E. Collect, arrange and edit literature for oral interpretation presentation;
- F. Integrate coach, peer, and self-critique for the purpose of speech and delivery improvements;
- G. Illustrate effective blocking techniques for multiple speaking genres;
- H. Demonstrate improvement in delivery skills;
- I. Demonstrate personal growth as a result of the competitive forensics experience.

V. CONTENT:

- A. Overview of forensics (debate formats, platform, limited preparation, oral interpretation, and readers theater)
- B. The application of theory and principles of communication to forensics
- C. Information competency as it pertains to the research, analysis, and writing for at least one event
 1. Supporting your speech
 - a. What to look for
 - b. Where to look – research techniques
 - c. Types of evidence
 - d. Evaluation of evidence
 2. Speech organization
 - a. Components of an introduction
 - b. Structural patterns of organizing the body of a speech
 - c. Components of a conclusion
 - d. Incorporation of research
- D. Learning to compile an oral interpretation program
 1. Different genres of literature
 - a. Poetry
 - b. Prose
 - c. Drama
 2. Where to find literature – research techniques
 3. Developing a theme for a program
 4. Editing strategies and techniques
 5. Writing an introduction
- E. Practicing advocacy and presentational skills for at least one event
- F. Participation in at least one competitive forensics
- G. Ethics and etiquette for event participation
- H. Practicing under the guidance of coaches and with peers in preparation for competitive forensics
- I. Post-event participation evaluation and self-reflection under the guidance of coaches and peers

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. Library orientations
- B. Peer group evaluation
- C. **Lecture** -
- D. **Audio-visual Activity** - Video and audio demonstrations of performances
- E. **Research** -
- F. **Individualized Instruction** - Individual student-instructor coaching sessions
- G. Participation in forensic activities
- H. **Critique** - Self, peer, and coaches' critiques
- I. **Demonstration** - Live demonstrations of performances

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. **Informative Speech**: Write an original, factual speech on a realistic subject that fulfills the main purpose of informing the audience. Audio and/or visual aids may be used to supplement and reinforce the message. Multiple sources should be used and cited in the development of the speech. Minimal notes are permitted. Maximum time is 10 minutes including introduction.
- B. **Communication Analysis**: Write an original speech which offers an explanation and/or evaluation of a communication event such as a speech, speaker, movement, poem, poster, film, campaign, etc., through the use of rhetorical principles. Audio and/or visual aids may be used to supplement and reinforce the message. Manuscripts are permitted. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes.
- C. **Prose Interpretation**: Using the art of oral interpretation, perform a selection or selections of prose material of literary merit, which may be drawn from more than one source. Play cuttings are prohibited. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes, including introduction.
- D. **Readers Theater**: Create a Readers Theater with a group of three to five other individuals. Any genre of literature, published or original, is permissible. All literature should reinforce a common theme. Recorded or live incidental music is permissible. Manuscripts must be psychologically present. No costumes beyond ensemble costumes are permitted. Reading stands, chairs, stools, ladders, platforms, steps, props, lighting effects may be used, however, facilities limitations should govern these choices. Time limit: 25 minutes.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

- 1. Oral Presentation
- 2. Field Trips
- 3. Class Participation
- 4. Other:
 - a. Methods
 - 1. Class participation and attendance
 - 2. Written manuscripts of all created platform speeches
 - 3. Written manuscripts of all edited and/or compiled literature for oral interpretation
 - 4. Instructor affirmation of overall student preparedness for competition
 - 5. Participation in forensic competition
 - 6. Students are not to be evaluated on their win/loss record.

B. **Frequency**

- 1. Frequency
 - a. Weekly participation in class activities
 - b. One to four written manuscripts of platform speeches
 - c. One to four written manuscripts of oral interpretation programs
 - d. Weekly individual coaching session
 - e. Participation in one to four tournaments

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Winebrenner, T.C.. *Intercollegiate Forensics*. 2nd ed., Kendall Hunt Publishing, 1997.
- 2. Bartanen, Michael, and Robert Littlefield. *Forensics in America*. 1st ed., Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2013.
- 3. Baker, Jory. *Little Black Book: A Forensics Anthology*. 1st ed., CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2015.
- 4. Lester, Sam. *Competitive Speaking: A Guide for Planning and Winning High School and College Speaking Competitions*. 1st ed., 74Blues Publishing, 2014.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. Visual aid stand
- B. Performance binder
- C. Visual aid carrying case
- D. Page protectors