

# Competitive Speech/Debate

2009-10

Course Syllabus

Instructor: Mr. Weiss  
Room: 235

**Course Description:** Competitive Speech /Debate is designed for the student interested in the oral performance of literature for the purpose of competitive speech. Students will be taught skills and the techniques for individual interpretation of literature, extemporaneous speaking, radio announcing, original oratory and/or debate. Participation in at least two competitive events will be required for this class. For students involved in other school related, extra-curricular activities we can adjust how many events in which they complete.

**Instruction Philosophy:** This course is an advanced level communication arts course. Therefore, students must work at an advanced level. It is imperative that students taking this class can monitor themselves, making sure they meet deadlines given.

### Course Goals:

1. Students will demonstrate skills in preparing an oral presentation.
2. Students will demonstrate the ability to use the voice effectively.
3. Students will demonstrate the ability to interpret literature orally.
4. Students will participate in competitive speech events.
5. Students will demonstrate the ability to present quality oral presentations.
6. Students will demonstrate the skills needed to effectively debate a topic.
7. Students will demonstrate the ability to effectively use research skills.

### Benchmark Objectives:

Mastery of all objectives is required with a minimum of 80%

<p>1<sup>st</sup> Quarter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Given a piece of literature, students will be able to analyze the author's intended theme.</li><li>• Given a piece of literature, students will be able to analyze the character.</li><li>• Given a piece of literature, students will be able to create an introduction that adequately prepares an audience for an interpretation.</li><li>• Given a piece of literature, students will be able to explain how to physically exhibit a character's traits.</li></ul>	<p>3rd Quarter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students will be able to use his/her voice to interpret a piece of literature.</li><li>• Students will be able to use his/her body to effectively interpret a piece of literature.</li><li>• Students will be able to work as a group to effectively interpret a piece of literature.</li><li>• Students will be able to effectively participate in speech competition.</li></ul>
<p>2nd Quarter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students will be able to use his/her voice to interpret a piece of literature.</li><li>• Students will be able to use his/her body to effectively interpret a piece of literature.</li><li>• Students will be able to present an introduction that effectively draws an audience into a piece of literature.</li><li>• Students will be able to effectively participate in a speech competition.</li></ul>	<p>4th Quarter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students will be able to research for the purpose of debating a given topic.</li><li>• Students will be able to analyze a topic for a specific form of debate.</li><li>• Students will be able to effectively debate a given topic using a specific form of Debate.</li><li>• Students will be able to define and use appropriate debate terminology.</li></ul>

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### Major Course Assignments and Projects:

- ❖ Literary Analysis
- ❖ Oral Interpretations
  - Storytelling
  - Dramatic Interpretation
  - Humorous Interpretation
  - Duet Acting
  - Prose Reading
  - Poetry Reading
- ❖ Public Speaking organization
- ❖ Speaking Events
  - Radio Speaking
  - Extemporaneous Speaking
  - Original Oratory
  - Debate
    - Lincoln-Douglas
    - Public Forum
- ❖ Reading
  - Students must read at least 400 pages of text before the end of the semester. Students may log pages read on their communication arts course log.

### Assessment Plan:

Quarter grading		Semester grading	
Speeches/Competitions	50%	First Quarter	50%
Homework	10%	Second Quarter	50%
Daily Work	10%		
Test/Quizzes	10%		
Final	20%		

### Classroom Expectations:

1. Be in your seat and quiet when the bell sounds (if not, then you are tardy); stay there unless given permission to move.
2. Be sure not to move desks.
3. Be attentive.
4. Be quiet when the teacher or another student is speaking or when a performance is taking place.
5. Be sure to raise your hand when you wish to speak.
6. Be honest—your grade will be based on YOUR work, not work copied or completed from or by another student and/or source.
7. Be informed—pay close attention to lectures, assignments directions, and due dates.
8. Be inquisitive!—always ask me to clarify if you do not understand an assignment or explanation.
9. Be sure to ask me or someone in the class about assignments missed due to an absence.
10. Be selective when you use your pass port. ( Pass ports will be limited to emergencies)
11. Be sure to place all materials and resources (textbooks, dictionaries, etc...) neatly back on the shelves.
12. Be sure to throw away all trash at the end of the hour. (Don't leave trash on floor, on/in desk.)
13. Be sure to leave when I dismiss you—not when the bell rings.
14. Class time should not be used to do homework from another class, sell candy / fundraising merchandise or groom/beautify yourself. (These behaviors should take place before the tardy bell.)
15. **No food, candy, or drinks allowed in class.**

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### Supplies and Materials needed:

1. 1 11/2 inch binder (to keep handouts and pieces of writing)
2. 1 note book (or binder with loose leaf paper)
3. 1 small 1 inch binder(see example before purchasing)
4. A blue or black ink pen
5. A pencil/ink pen
6. Highlighters
7. Note cards
8. Legal pad
9. CD-RW or Jump Drive
10. **For donation to classroom** (optional)
  - A box of facial tissue (optional)

**Homework Policy and Grading Scale:** Please refer to the Student Handbook for the Homework Policy. The grading scale is as follows:

A.....100-95	C.....76-73
A-.....94-90	C-.....72-73
B+.....89-87	D+.....69-67
B.....86-83	D.....66-63
C+.....79-77	F.....59-0

### Extra Help:

Mondays and Tuesdays after school until 3:30 PM

### Time and Place to be reached by Parent:

Planning period: 6<sup>th</sup>

School Phone # 431-2616 ext. 4163

School Email jweiss@centralr3.org

Please sign and return by \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_