

Welcome to Competitive Public Speaking & Debate!!!

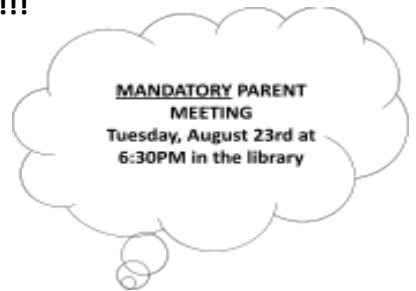
Instructor: Ms. Nash (Public Speaking), Mr. Mithani (Debate)

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Phone Number: 594-1206; 594-1205

Team Website: <https://hendricksonspeechanddebate.org>

Practice Times: Tuesdays and Wednesdays (4:30-6:30pm)



Send a text to 81010 with the message:
@hawkdebate (STUDENTS ONLY) or @hhsdb8pnts (PARENTS ONLY)

Course Description

This course is designed to serve as an advanced, competitive communications course that focuses on public speaking as a form of communication. This course is designed to help you select intellectually challenging and socially significant speech topics appropriate to specific audiences, prepare outlines that facilitate the delivery of well-organized speeches, develop your research skills as well as knowledge about the construction of an argument, enable you to comfortably, competently and eloquently speak in front of an audience, and to assess public speakers' strengths and weaknesses. You will also learn techniques to increase confidence, methods of adapting to a variety of audiences, and ways to support ideas with sound evidence and logic. **You will be speaking in this class!** If at any time you need my assistance please feel free to see me, I will help you in any way I can.

Tournament Attendance

This is a competitive class. By enrolling, you have also become a member of the HHS speech & debate team. **Throughout the semester, you will be expected to attend 3 tournaments (VARSITY) or 1 tournament (NOVICE) each nine weeks. Failure to attend the tournaments will result in an automatic drop of one grade level for that 9 weeks period.** (For example, if you are earning a 92 for the class, but do not attend the tournament, your grade will be an 82. You may pass the class without attending tournaments, but you will not get an A.) Dates of tournament opportunities are on the schedule, along with helpful information on the team website. The HHS Speech & Debate tournament schedule is online. - it is your responsibility to make sure you fulfill this requirement. If you have questions/concerns about this requirement, you should see me ASAP to discuss. **If you are ineligible or you have some sort of rare scheduling problem and cannot attend a tournament during a 9 weeks, you may receive an alternative assignment– it is an extensive research paper. You will want to stay eligible and attend the required tournament!**

Extemp Filing

Filing is a required component of the course. Students are required to file AND highlight 20 articles per week (VARSITY) and 10 articles per week (NOVICE). Filing Grades are major grades.

Ballots and Flows

Examining ballots and flows from competitive debates is essential for learning. Students are REQUIRED to keep all debate flows in their binder. They should be titled and stored (we will discuss in class). This is a **MAJOR GRADE** each nine weeks. Each tournament, we will also do a reflection and each 9 weeks we will do a comprehensive analysis for growth.

Required Materials

- 1 or 2-inch 3 ring notebook – to keep track of the syllabus, notes and ballots. Students are responsible for keeping up with this information, as it will be referred to throughout the semester. Keep up with your stuff!!
- G2 Pens in at least 2 different colors (bring EVERY day)
- 1 Set of dividers (3 Sections needed): Vocab, Lecture Notes/Handouts, Critiques/Ballots

Grading

Your grade in this class is determined by using the following criteria:

- 50% Major grades** (classroom/debate participation, progress, speeches, tests and major projects)
- 10% Tournament Attendance** (1 per 9 weeks novice; 2 per 9 weeks varsity – mandatory)
- 10% Practice Attendance** (Tues/Weds, 18 practices/9 weeks – attend 90% of practices for a 100)
- 30% Daily grades** (homework, in-class activities, group daily work, filing, current events quizzes)

Classroom Rules & Procedures

1) Be respectful!

- Regardless of the “heated nature” of some of the topics we discuss, all communication with your fellow teammates, any visitors, and me should be respectful, courteous and mindful of differences at all times.
- Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated – any student caught cheating will be given a zero for the assignment and receive appropriate disciplinary action (see handbook).
- Follow directions the first time they are given.

2) Be ENGAGED!

- This course requires active, continuous discussion and engagement. In order to create a successful environment for learning & growth, all teammates are expected to be contributors to the discussions.
- Unless otherwise indicated, the classroom (for practice AND class) is a ‘CELL PHONE FREE’ zone.

3) Be positive!

4) Be on task and prepared!

- Be sure you are engaged in meaningful, Speech/Debate-related work at all times. We work from bell to bell.

Afterschool Practice

Just like practice is important in sports, practice is important for debaters as well. These after school practices are a critical component to your success on the Speech & Debate team and are **REQUIRED**. There are two practices per week. A “Practice Attendance” grade will be given each nine weeks as a major grade. All absences from practice must be communicated with Ms. Nash and should be made up during practice make-up time. For Novices, attending 90% of practices in a 9 weeks will earn a 100. Varsity members are expected to be in attendance at all practices. Any missed practices are to be made up via arrangement with Ms. Nash.

HHS Speech & Debate Library & Technology

Items belonging to HHS Speech & Debate must be checked out and RETURNED – if you need a book, laptop stand, ethernet cord,, etc., follow the check in/check out procedures. Failure to do so will result in a referral and may keep you from being able to travel with us to tournaments. Failure to return HHS Speech & Debate items in a timely manner will result in a hold being placed on your records and will be treated like any other campus obligation at the end of the year.

Presentation / Speech Due Dates

It is very important that you are ready to go on presentation days. Deadlines and due dates are communicated FAR in advance – keep these in mind and stay on top of the assignments. If you are not prepared to give your speech on the due date, you will receive a 0. Students may ‘make up’ the missed speech within the next 5 class days for a maximum of a 70. Presentations must be completed within the three week grading period to receive credit. **Students wishing to redo a speech/presentation after earning a failing grade must redo the entire assignment on a different topic.**

Class Discussion Participation Grades

You will get ongoing grades for participation in classroom discussions – in Congress rounds, practice PF rounds, policy rounds, round table discussions, book chats, etc. While occasional silence on a particular topic is acceptable, routine lack of participation is unacceptable. Failure to participate will result in poor classroom discussion grades.

Late Work

Assignments are considered ‘not turned in’ if they are not turned in when you walk in the door. Once this happens, a 0 will be recorded. Students may redo or resubmit **Minor Grades** before the end of the 3-week period, to receive a max grade of 70. Redos must be good-faith efforts at the assignment; *trivial attempts will not be accepted or graded*. Work that is not turned in within the 3-week period will not be accepted. **In-Class or participation assignments are not eligible for make-up if a student opts NOT to participate during the time allocated in class.**

Retesting or Redoing

Students scoring below “70” on a **Major Grade** may redo the assignment/test (or similar) after completing prerequisite work. Retesting/redoing should be completed within five school days. For multiple choice exams, all students will be allowed to correct the exam to earn back ½ of the lost points. **Students wishing to redo a project after earning a failing grade must redo the entire assignment on a different topic.**