Course Description

This course is designed for the student who is interested in public speaking and argumentation. The course will stress two types of debate (Lincoln-Douglas Debate & Public Forum Debate). Debate I will include analysis of current controversial issues, methods & materials of research, evidence, applied logic and reasoning, construction of debate cases, audience analysis, and the use of strategy in debate.

In addition to the above, students will receive instruction pertaining to organizations governing competitive debate (National Forensic League) and tournament protocol(s). This class will teach the fundamentals of debate and debate theory will be taught in the context of what is practiced in interscholastic debate.

Students will be expected to compete in at least one debate tournament in the semester (For competition, you must maintain eligibility and be prepared on the at least one week before the tournament (see competition policy).

Course or PASS Objectives

Debate is the organized clash of ideas. Just like lawyers represent clients in trials, individuals represent ideas in debate. Debate encourages each side to use evidence, reasoning, and persuasion to best represent their ideas. Learning debate is a lot like learning a sport. Once you know the basic rules, the best way to learn is by doing. This class, therefore is strongly based on performance through a variety of debate forms. The skills of debate are valuable beyond the classroom, they are the skills that colleges and employers look for. Our primary goal is to learn and practice these life skills.

By the end of this course, The students will:
1. Develop a theoretical background of academic debate and argument.
2. Develop writing techniques used for and against issues in value & policy debate.
3. Develop critical thinking skills through analysis of issues relating to value & policy debate.
4. Develop research skills.
5. Determine the strength(s)/weakness(s) of evidence.
6. Develop oral advocacy and refutation skills.

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<td>A-</td>
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<td>B+</td>
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Reading Material and Supplies

Textbooks and Materials We will use a variety of books, magazines, internet and other sources to research our debates. Additionally, we will use the text Basic Debate by Phillips et al. Materials to bring to class are pencils and pens, a binder, folder, note cards and loose leaf paper.
Course Syllabus p. 2

**Course Outline**

**Unit 1: Public Speaking**
1. This unit will be a review of Speech and public speaking techniques taught in Speech I which will include
   a. Communication process.
   b. Listening skills
   c. Ethics in communication
   d. Interpersonal communication
   e. Argumentation

**Unit 2: Persuasion**
1. ROLE IN SOCIETY. The student examines the historical and contemporary contributions of debate in decision-making and democratic processes.
2. ANALYSIS OF ISSUES. The student analyzes current and controversial issues.
3. PROPOSITIONS OF VALUE. The student develops and demonstrates skills for debating propositions of value (i.e., Lincoln-Douglas debate).
4. PROPOSITIONS OF POLICY. The student develops and demonstrates skills for debating propositions of policy (i.e., cross-examination debate).
5. LOGIC. The student applies critical thinking, logic and reasoning in debate.
6. PROOF. The student utilizes research and proof in debate.
7. CASE CONSTRUCTION. The student identifies and applies the basic concepts of debate case construction.
8. REFUTATION. The student identifies and applies the basic concepts of argumentation and refutation.
9. DELIVERY. The student uses effective communication skills.
10. EVALUATION. The student evaluates and critiques debates.

**Unit 3: Lincoln-Douglas Debate**
1. Learn L-D debate theory, rules, procedures, format, and protocol.
2. Study philosophers, especially John Locke, John Stuart Mill, Emmanuel Kant, John Rawls, Thomas Hobbs, Jean Jacques Rousseau and others depending on what is needed to debate the resolution.
3. Research resolution
4. Write cases.
5. Debate in practice rounds, in class, at after school practices, and at tournaments.

**Unit 4: Extemporaneous Speaking**
(for foreign and United States current event issues, informative and persuasive)
1. Read newsmagazines and newspapers to keep current on state, national and world news.
2. Cut and file articles from newsmagazines and newspapers.
3. Research current events and topics.
4. Learn correct speech format and extemporaneous speaking rules, procedures, and protocol.
5. Give speeches in practice rounds, in class, at after school practices, and at tournaments.

**Unit 5: Original Oratory**
1. Research a societal problem.
2. Write an original oratory.
3. Memorize and rehearse the oratory.
4. Give the oratory in practice sessions, in after school practices, and in class.

**Unit 6: Public Forum Debate**
1. Research the national debate resolution.
2. Learn debate theory, rules, procedures, and protocol.
3. Research resolution.
4. Write cases, disadvantages, topicality arguments, blocks, and other briefs.
5. Flowing debate rounds.
6. Refutation.
7. Debate in practice rounds, in class practices, and at tournaments.

**Unit 7: Mock Trials**
1. Learn Mock trial theory, rules, procedures, format, and protocol.
2. Study cases, evaluate issues, prepare defense and prosecution cases.
3. Learn courtroom etiquette, rules of evidence.
4. Write cases and study roles for class room trials.
5. Participate in practice rounds, in class Mock trial

**ADVANCED DEBATERS**

Basically, throughout the fall and spring semesters, advanced debaters will:
1. Focus on either PF Debate or LD Debate, analyze, research, write cases, prepare for competition, practice debate rounds in class or at after school practices and tournament competition.
2. Work the extemporaneous file and keep it current.
3. Give one extemporaneous speech each week, in class or at after school practices, and compete.
4. Compete in original oratory (especially if they want to be considered for overnight tournaments).
5. When possible, compete in student congress.
6. Planning and Running of MHS Rotary Club Little Nationals Speech Tournament.

*Performance: Students are required to assist with hosting MHS Rotary Little national Speech Tournament December 4-5, 2015; and compete in speech tournaments. See Speech team calendar for tournament dates.

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**Muskogee High School Policies**

**Instructor’s Grading Criteria/Timetable:**
Students will be required to do both performance and written work in this course.

- IN-CLASS PERFORMANCE: Specific in-class performances will be necessary for a portion of the student’s grade. Students will be given at least five days notice before the performance will take place. **Students are expected to perform on the date assigned to them.** If a student is absent the day of performance, then they will be expected to make-up that performance the day of their return. There will be no exceptions unless authorized by Mrs. McGill. (**If a student, for various reasons, chooses not to perform a specific unit, then an alternate written assignment MUST be completed for credit. You will only be allowed one alternative assignment to replace a performance. Mrs. McGill must approve this IN ADVANCE.**)

- **Participation & Attendance**
The opportunity to learn about Drama can only be truly successful when active participation is present. Participation in this class is of the highest priority. Everyone in this class must be open and willing to attempt every activity. To participate fully in this class, you must be in attendance every day. You cannot perform, participate and learn if you are not here. **It will be difficult to pass this course if you are not here on a daily basis.**

**Evaluations**
A final evaluative assignment will be given for each unit of study. This evaluation may be a written examination or a performance, depending on the unit of study. The final examination for this course will be cumulative over the entire semester’s work. This final will be worth at least 20% of the course grade.

The final grade will be made up of the following areas:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Performances/Tests</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes &amp; Written Work</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semester Final</td>
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**Course Policies:** (All district and school rules and policies are strictly adhered to)

**Respect Each Other:**
- Do not use vulgar or offensive language or behavior.
- Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
- Give speakers your undivided attention.
- Listen. Be supportive to classmates.

**Respect the purpose:**
- Be in class on time & ready to work
- Have necessary materials daily. (paper, pencils, assignments, scripts)
- Listen & and follow instructions the first time they are given.
- Participate in projects and activities

**Respect Property:**
- No food, drinks, or gum in class.
- Use classroom materials and property appropriately at all times.
Additional policies & procedure

- This is a production level class. Participation in all activities and performances are **required**.
- Teasing and making fun of another student or bullying is absolutely unacceptable. Do not pick on or embarrass your fellow students.
- Keep bags, purses, and backpacks under your desk or hang on the back of your chair.
- You will be dismissed by me at the end of class. Do not begin gathering your things in anticipation of the bell.
- Content of all theatrical must be appropriate for school performance. There will be no tolerance of inappropriate/offensive language, gestures, or innuendo.
- **Electronic devices (cell phones, MP3 players, video games, DVD players, etc.) will be confiscated if used during class time without permission. Students may pick them up after school.**

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**Muskogee High School Policies**

**Extra Credit Policy**
Extra credit cannot replace a “zero” grade or an unexcused missed performance.

Alternate/Extra Credit assignments: These assignments can only be used to raise an unsatisfactory grade and not to substitute an assignment that was not done or received a low grade due to being turned in late. Projects will be arranged with students on a case by case basis.

**Attendance/Tardiness**
Absence:
*If a student is absent just prior to the day a quiz or test is given and said student had full knowledge of the date of the performance, quiz or test as well as all information necessary that student is required to take the quiz or test on the scheduled date.*

*If a student is absent on any other day, it is the responsibility of the student to acquire (from me) any handouts or information taught in class on the day of the absence upon returning to school. Arrangements for makeup work are to be done during Mastery Learning time/tutoring time, before or after class, not during regular class time.

**Late Work Policy**
Students may only makeup work missed for **excused** absences without penalty (see student handbook). Students will be responsible for finding out what assignments they have missed outside of class time (i.e. office hours, by appointment, etc.). Written work including tests and quizzes, worksheets, homework, performance, and other written class work may be made up. Lessons, class exercises and activities, demonstrations, participation and bell work may not be made up, however, extra-credit can be submitted to raise grades.

- Make-Up Work
  Make-up work for written assignments is permitted and will be graded for full credit provided that it is turned in within two (2) days after a student returns to school. Performance work that is missed must be made up **the day the student returns to class**. It is the student’s responsibility to request work missed and to turn in or perform within the above guidelines. Missed tests must be made up either **before** or **after** school.

- Late Work
  Partial credit is given at Mrs. McGill’s discretion. Twenty percent (20%) will be deducted from the total points for that assignment from the day it is due up to 5 days late. If the assignment is more than 5 days late, a “0” will be given for that assignment.

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**Mastery Learning/Tutoring**
A New Bell Schedule was implemented in 2008-2009 to provide time for mastery learning and for tutoring.

**Tutoring Schedule:**

- **Wednesday & Friday 7:35 – 8:10**
- **Tuesday & Thursday 2:50 – 3:30 (by appointment only)**