

Northwest Arkansas Community College  
Division of Communication and Arts

Course Number and Title

COMM 2622 Introduction to Debate

Catalogue Description

The study and development of students' abilities to construct, analyze, and evaluate claims which characterize civic discourse in a contingent world. Classical as well as contemporary theories of debate will be analyzed and applied. Requires students to engage in competitive and intercollegiate debates as a member of a speech team.

Prerequisites

None

Credit Hours/Contact Hours/Load Hours

Three

Target Audience/Transferability

This course is designed for communication majors, as well as students that desire to increase their opportunities in the job market by demonstrating effective public speaking skills. The course may transfer as a required course for a communication major and/or as an elective for both communication majors and non-majors.

General Education Outcome(s)

Students develop higher order thinking skills.

Students can employ a variety of sources to locate, evaluate, and use information.

Students develop effective oral communication skills.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will learn to become more effective critical thinkers and consumers of information and arguments by achieving the following:

1. Identify and evaluate types of arguments, reasoning processes, and logical fallacies.
2. Demonstrate how to use evidence to prove a claim and how to evaluate the adequacy of the opposing evidence.
3. Demonstrate skills in refutation and cross examination

Topics

Informative, persuasive, group speeches, verbal, nonverbal, communication, classical and contemporary debate constructs and techniques.

Assessment

A minimum of 5 oral debates

Library research

Written analyses of literature and written outlines of speeches

Required Materials

Attend a minimum of one off campus speech team competition. Travel may include overnight.

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Date