

Northwest Arkansas Community College

Division of Communication and Arts

Course Number and Title

COMM Introduction to Speech Competition

Catalogue Description

The study and practice of individual events, debate, and interpretative theatre that are commonly a part of forensics competition. Course focuses on research of subject matter, performance, and professionalism as a competitive speaker. Requires students to engage in competitive and intercollegiate forensics 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

1. Demonstrate time management skills, performance ability, teamwork skills, and academic output to craft presentations for forensic competitions.
2. Research, select, develop, memorize, and present at one or more speech team events.
3. Recall and apply theories related to oral interpretation of literature.
4. Perform literature and use effective nonverbal communication choices/techniques.
5. Prepare and present speeches, using research, organization, and delivery skills.

Topics

Informative, persuasive, demonstration speeches, group speeches, verbal, nonverbal, communication analysis, prose, poetry, extemporaneous speaking, impromptu speaking, and interpretative theatre.

Assessment

A minimum of 5 oral presentations

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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