

**Communication Studies 310-Argumentation and Debate**

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Scheduled hours per week**

Lecture: 3

Lab: 0

Other: 0

**Catalog Course Description:** This course provides an overview of the principles of argumentation, logic and reasoning, evidence, forms of debate, and decision making. Application of the principles will take the form of in-class debates.

**Prerequisites:** COMM 111, COMM 112 or COMM 202

**Corequisites:** None

**Course Learning Outcomes:**

- Understand and demonstrate argumentative strategies
- Understand and demonstrate logical proofs and claims
- Develop skills in analyzing research and arguments
- Become competent in oral presentation of arguments

**Topics to be studied:**

- Syllogisms and enthymemes
- Forms of reasoning
- Argumentative fallacies
- Critical thinking
- Ethical decision making
- Refutation
- Policy debate
- Value debate

<b>Relationship of Course to Discipline Learning Outcomes</b>	
<b>Explain how ethics play a role in the communication process.</b>	X
<b>Recall the communication process.</b>	X
<b>Demonstrate an ability to select appropriate topics and language for public presentations.</b>	X
<b>Demonstrate an ability to conduct research.</b>	X
<b>Create complex messages in a variety of communication settings.</b>	X

Evaluate and critique one's own and other's communication in a variety of settings.	X
Apply effective delivery skills in a variety of communication settings.	X
Recall the historic background of mass media and contemporary media issues.	
Summarize the theoretical underpinnings of mass communication.	

<b>Relationship of Course to General Education Learning Outcomes:</b>	
<b>Composition and Rhetoric</b> Students illustrate a fundamental understanding of the best practices of communicating in English and meet the writing standards of their college or program-based communication requirements.	X
<b>Science &amp; Technology</b> Students successfully apply systematic methods of analysis to the natural and physical world, understand scientific knowledge as empirical, and refer to data as a basis for conclusions.	
<b>Mathematics &amp; Quantitative Skills</b> Students effectively use quantitative techniques and the practical application of numerical, symbolic, or spatial concepts.	
<b>Society, Diversity, &amp; Connections</b> Students demonstrate understanding of and a logical ability to successfully analyze human behavior, societal and political organization, or communication.	X
<b>Human Inquiry &amp; the Past</b> Students interpret historical events or philosophical perspectives by identifying patterns, applying analytical reasoning, employing methods of critical inquiry, or expanding problem-solving skills.	
<b>The Arts &amp; Creativity</b> Students successfully articulate and apply methods and principles of critical and creative inquiry to the production or analysis of works of art.	

**Special projects or requirements of the course:** N/A

**Additional information:** N/A

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