

Speech & Debate Syllabus

Reynolds High School 2023/24

Instructor: Valerie Schiller **Room:** 609 **Length:** 1 Year (2 Semesters)
Email: vschiller@rsd7.net **Phone:** (503) 667-3186 ext. 1347 **Website:** Schoology
OFFICE HOURS—Monday 3:15-4:30PM; Tuesday-Friday 7:30-8:00AM; by appointment

Course Description

Major Concepts/Content: Speech & Debate is a year-long college-level Honors course introducing students to logical argumentation and speech skills on world issues—especially economics (jobs, income, households, taxes), public health, international politics, human rights, and government. These skills equip students to become members of the RHS Debate Team and become better and more confident critical readers, writers, speakers, questioners, and thinkers. These skills will set them up to ace classes in high school and boost ahead on any post-graduation path. Students will learn various debate forms and techniques, including constructing an affirmative case, preparing a rebuttal, and engaging in cross-examination and POIs. Furthermore, students will learn individual events—impromptu, extemporaneous, informative and persuasive speaking, radio commentary, and entertainment-style speaking. Students will observe and participate in real tournaments. Furthermore, students may earn college credit for their summative work.

Recommended Materials for Class - BRING WITH YOU EVERY DAY!

1. Notepad (“flowpad”)—front half for lecture; back half for flowing debate rounds
2. Pencils, Highlighter, and Pens (multiple colors, e.g. red, blue, green)
3. Chromebook
4. Timer

Ms. Schiller has supplies available for your success.

Grading - High School Weighted Elective Credit + MHCC/WOU College Credit

Projects—Summative Speeches: 50%	4 = 100% = Exceeds	A = 90-100%
Daily Work (Formative)—Briefs, Notes, Writings: 30%	3 = 85% = Meets	B = 80-89%
Quizzes: 10%	2 = 70% = Almost	C = 70-79%
Participation (POWER): 10%	1 = 60% = Does Not	D = 60-69%
Present	0 = 50% = No Evidence	F = 0-59%

On-time

With materials

Engaged listening and writing

Regular verbal contributions

DAILY TALLY:

Category	Present	On Time	With Materials	Engaged	Verbal Contribution
Points	I	II	III	IIII	IIII

The only semi-regular homework students have is an assignment called a brief. However, all work not completed in class becomes homework. Check Schoology for slideshows, assignments, and due dates. Projects and select assignments are graded on the Proficiency Scale (1-4). See grading rubrics for more detail. Ms. Schiller grades participation on a variation of the RHS Power policy—5 points per day, 25 points per week (see above). Students must be ready for vocabulary quizzes at any time in the semester.

Late Work Policy

Late work is due as scheduled—online, printed, or both. However, except for *group application and group work activities*, students have a 1-week grace period. This means if a student misses a deadline, they have one week from that deadline to submit the assignment to the late box without penalty. Beyond the grace period, unless arranged prior with Ms. Schiller, work is worth **50% credit**.

Absences & Work Completion

As per the student handbook, students with excused absences have as many days as they missed to complete missing work. **UNEXCUSED ABSENCES** (skipping) may result in a penalty of 50% credit.

When absent, check: 1. Schoology; 2. Absent Bin; 3. with Classmates; 4. with the Teacher

Tardies & Locked Door

Within seconds of the bell, the door is closed and locked for the duration of the class period. The locked door signals class is in session and helps the people inside stay secure and concentrate on work. If arriving late, please knock politely and wait. The teacher or a designated student will open the door soon.

Electronics Policy (Cell Phones, Headphones/Earbuds, and Chromebooks)

Initials

Guardian:

Student:

To preserve the classroom for higher-level learning and concentration, **cell phones are not allowed without explicit permission from the teacher.** Before a student enters, they must turn off and put away into their bag their cell phone and earbuds. Students who take out their phone before their work is stamped for the day earn fewer participation points. Breaking this policy is grounds for confiscation and parent pick-up. Headphones/earbuds are allowed during independent worktime only. **Students must charge their Chromebook every night and bring their Chromebook every day. (The classroom has a limited number of chargers and outlets for use during worktime.) Classwork may not be done on a phone. Students who forget their Chromebook will be required to borrow or work on paper.**

Community Expectations – DAILY HABITS BUILD CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP.

1. **MUTUAL RESPECT:** Respect goes two ways: from student to community and from community to student. This means the student respects their classmates, teacher, classroom, the day's lesson, and self. At the same time, the community shows respect to each student and their opportunity to learn. Ms. Schiller strives to facilitate an environment for each student to have what they need to succeed. Often this means the community learns from and teaches each other. Before the tardy bell rings, students are in their seat with required materials and working on the day's warm-up. During direct instruction, attention is on the teacher or presenter. During group work, attention is on peers and the assignment. During independent worktime, headphones are used only to aid concentration on the assignment. Headphones are off and away for the day's exit. All materials are cleaned up on desks and floors so the next class period finds the room spotless. Due to historical patterns of rodent activity, food and drinks other than water are not allowed and must be consumed in the hallway prior to entering the classroom. Students and teacher act with care and purpose.

2. **RESPONSIBLE COMMUNICATION:** Students have a shared responsibility, along with Ms. Schiller, in building a positive and collaborative community. Each student is expected to be actively engaged in listening, writing, and speaking each day. Whether the speaker is Ms. Schiller, a classmate, or a guest, pay attention and be kind. If a student is absent, they are responsible for checking both in person and electronically on Schoology to catch up on missing work. Ms. Schiller announces and reminds of deadlines frequently. Any questions, comments, or concerns may be written and placed in Ms. Schiller's Message Box, emailed, or communicated during office hours or by appointment. If connected to the day's work, please ask questions in class! Questions asked at an appropriate time count as a verbal contribution.

3. **GROWTH MINDSET:** Speech & Debate is all about taking risks outside one's comfort zone so to learn, grow, and gain confidence and skill. This means practice, practice, practice and competing in tournaments! While students are not expected to be perfect, they are expected to be actively working toward a growth mindset throughout the school year. As part of this expectation, **students may revise and resubmit any work within one week of receiving feedback.**

MHCC Course Information – Students have the opportunity to sign up for free college credit.

Title: COMM221A: Forensics

Type: Lower Division Collegiate (100)

Subject: Communication (COMM)

Course Credit: 1 Lab Hours/Term: 30

Course Description: This course allows for preparation of speeches, debates and discussions for delivery before public audiences and in inter-collegiate competition. Repeatable for up to 3 elective credits.

Course Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Deliver a persuasive speech.
2. Deliver an informative speech.
3. Discuss and practice skills in extemporaneous and impromptu speaking.
4. Practice debating skills.

MHCC Statement of Academic Honesty

Cheating, plagiarism, and other acts of academic dishonesty are regarded as serious offenses. Instructors have the responsibility to submit, in a written report to the Associate Vice President of Student Life, any such incident that cannot be resolved between the instructor and student. Depending on the nature of the offense, serious penalties may be imposed, ranging from loss of points to expulsion from the class or college. The MHCC Student Handbook includes Student Rights & Responsibilities.

WOU Willamette Promise Course Information – A second opportunity for free college credit.

Title: COMM111z: Principles of Public Speaking

Course Credit: 4 credits

Course Description: This course emphasizes developing communication skills by examining and demonstrating how self-awareness, audience, content, and occasion influence the creation and delivery of speeches and presentations.

Course Standards:

	Proficiency	Assessment	Measurement	
1	I can choose and narrow a topic appropriate for	Students need to perform two summative assessments—1 Persuasive Speech and 1 Informative Speech. Speeches should meet the following requirements: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minimum of 5 minutes 2. Be between 5-7 minutes long 3. Visual aids need to be used with each of the presentations 4. Speeches need a minimum of 5 sources that are cited within the body of the speech 5. Outlines need to be created 6. Bibliographies need to be created 7. Audience size needs to be a minimum of 5 people Instruction staff should also build into their syllabus multiple (4-5) additional formative speech evaluations	a. Speeches will be scored using the provided Willamette Promise Rubric. b. Speeches should score a 2 or above in all competencies. c. Students must score a minimum of 22 on both speeches in order to receive college credit. d. Outlines should be scored on the appropriate competencies (2, 4). e. See grading Scheme on final page.	
2	I can communicate my thesis and purpose in a manner appropriate for the audience and occasion.			
3	I can research and provide supporting evidence and materials (including electronic and non--electronic presentational aids) appropriate for the audience and the occasion.			
4	I can use an organizational pattern appropriate			
5	I can use language that is appropriate to the audience and the occasion.			
6	I can use vocal variety in rate, pitch, and intensity (volume) to heighten and maintain interest appropriate to the audience and occasion.			Podiums can be used but are not required
7	articulation appropriate to the audience and occasion.			
8	I can use physical behaviors that support the verbal message.			
9	I can evaluate my own speech, and those of others, by examining their reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric, word choice, and delivery.			Students will evaluate themselves, and one other speech (peer, or notable speech) using the rubric and giving a detailed explanation of their score in each area.

Course Calendar (September 7, 2023- June 14, 2024) DISCLAIMER: Dates may change.**SEMESTER 1** Intro to Speech & Debate

September: Games, Exercises, Routines, Intro to Argumentation, SPAR, Intro to Research, Evidence, and Brief-Writing, Intro to Public Speaking, Debate Notetaking (Flowing), Resolitional Analysis, Impromptu

October: Debate Rounds, Extemporaneous Speaking, Radio Commentary, Questioning and Responding

October 4th: PUDL After-School Scrimmage at Reynolds High School (REQUIRED)

October 14th: OSAA Barlow High School Novice Tournament (EXTRA CREDIT)

October 21st: PUDL Homecoming Brawl at McDaniel High School (EXTRA CREDIT)

November: Impromptu/Extemp Practice, Prep Time Strategies, Intro to Informative Speaking & Visuals

November 4th: OSAA Silverton High School Tournament (EXTRA CREDIT)

November 17-19th: OSAA Robert D. Clark University of Oregon Tournament (EXTRA CREDIT)

December: Debate and Speech Practice, Intro to Dramatic and Humorous reading
December 2nd: OSAA Clackamas High School Tournament (EXTRA CREDIT)

January: Intro to Persuasive Speaking, Monroe Motivated Sequence
January 13th-14th: OSAA Jean Ward Invitational Tournament at Lewis & Clark College (REQUIRED)
Final Exam Prep (Final Presentations take place January 24-25, 2024.)

SEMESTER 2 Advanced Speech & Debate

February: Intro to Speaking for Entertainment, Intro to Dramatic/Humorous Interpreting
February 10th: OSAA Reynolds Invitational/NAUDL Policy Qualifiers (REQUIRED)
February 22nd: All-Day Field Trip to Oregon State Capitol (Sign-ups only, highly recommended)
February 24th: NSDA National Qualifiers (Must meet point eligibility)

March: Preparations for Districts

March 2nd: OSAA Oregon City High School Tournament (EXTRA CREDIT)
March 7th: 3rd Annual Community Showcase Night at Reynolds High School (DOUBLE EXTRA CREDIT)
March 15th-16th: OSAA Mt. Hood Conference District Competition at RHS (EXTRA CREDIT)

April: Ethics Bowl (choice of topics in education, healthcare, food, and the environment)
April 18th-20th: OSAA State Speech & Debate Competition (Must qualify from results at Districts)

May/June: Criminal Justice Discussion Unit (*O.J.: Made in America* mini-series)—Final takes place June 12-13, 2024.

Tournament Participation

Students are required to participate in select tournaments and are encouraged to participate in as many as they can! All experience is good experience and will make them stronger speakers and debaters. For tournaments, transportation and other expenses are provided. Your student participates for free.

Parent Request

Consider serving as a judge at a tournament! No experience required. Contact Ms. Schiller.

Return of Contract

READ, SIGN, and RETURN THIS CONTRACT TO MS. SCHILLER

Student: I have read and understand the requirements for Speech & Debate, including participation at tournaments. I have initialed the cell phone policy.

Print Name

Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian: I have read and understand the requirements for Speech & Debate, including participation at tournaments. I have initialed the cell phone policy. I will support my student's learning success.

Print Name

Signature

Date

Circle best method(s) of contact: Call/Text/Work/Email _____

Circle best time(s) of: Morning/Afternoon/Evening _____

Questions, Concerns, and/or Comments:

DUE BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 — Extra credit available for return Mon-Thurs, Sept 11-14.