

ACES Learning Center Course Syllabus D107: Argumentation and Debate II

Course Description

Logical reasoning, analytical argument structure, and persuasion are all necessary tools for any debater. Argumentation and Debate II hones these skills in students, and teaches them the more subtle nuance argumentation and persuasion techniques that all good debaters have. Upon the completion of this course, students should have mastered basic pure logic concepts, they should have further developed their ability to profile their judges and to persuade, and they should be able to make very well structured arguments related to both public policy and morality.

Course Objectives and Student Competencies:

Students Will:

1. Develop argumentation and reasoning skills
2. Develop persuasive reasoning skills
3. Learn how to argue moral issues, as well as issues dealing with public policy

Major Topics:

1. Public Forum
2. Lincoln Douglas
3. Judge profiling
4. Pure Logic

Class Structure:

1. Speech, Debate or Improvisation Warm-Ups
2. Completing Homework Speeches
3. Logic Concept Discussion
4. Introduction to New Debate/Speech Topics
5. Application of New Debate/Speech Topics

Course Schedule:

Date	Topics	Homework
Week 1	Introductions, impromptu debates; how to profile judges; public forum topic introduction	Finish public forum pro case
Week 2	Public Forum continued; how to persuade	Finish Con case

	someone with staunchly different views than you; pro speech workshop; introduction to symbolic logic	
Week 3	Public Forum continued; con speech workshop; how to make large A2 files; cross examination practice; symbolic logic “and/or” practice.	Develop “block file”
Week 4	Public Forum Continued; first round of debates; symbolic logic “if/ if and only if.”	Prepare speech-re do’s, and rebuttal speeches
Week 5	Public Forum Continued; final round of debates	Prepare any rebuttal re-dos.
Week 6	Introduction to moral issues; introduction to Lincoln Douglas	Begin writing LD affirmative case
Week 7	Lincoln Douglas Continued; explanation of core value and criterion; affirmative speech writing workshop	Complete writing LD affirmative case, begin writing LD negative
Week 8	Lincoln Douglas Continued; LD negative case workshop, LD rebuttal workshop	Finish all LD cases, prepare LD block-file
Week 9	Lincoln Douglas continued; first round of debates	Prepare rebuttal re-do’s, and flow rewrites
Week 10	Lincoln Douglas continued; second round of debates	Prepare final case adjustments, rebuttals, and A2 files
Week 11	Final Lincoln Douglas debates	None