

CIS 284: Intercollegiate Debate and Forensics

(1 credit hour)

Spring 2016

Instructor: Timothy Bill

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Office Location: Breckinridge Hall 413

Office Hours: Monday 10-noon, Thursday 11-1 PM, and by appointment

Course Description

Preparation for and participation in intercollegiate debating and/or forensics. May be repeated seven times for a maximum of eight credits.

Prerequisites : Instructor approval required to enroll.



Student Learning Outcomes

In this course, students will demonstrate the ability to...

- prepare events at a level of collegiate forensics competition
- refine those events based on coach and judge feedback
- develop public address speech topics and select literature for interpretation
- apply argumentation theory and rhetorical principles to each event
- practice teamwork on campus and in competition

Required Materials

- No additional materials are required for this course beyond those required for successful competition on the University of Kentucky Forensics Team.

UK Forensics Digital Presence

Website: ukforensics.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UniversityOfKentuckyForensics>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/UKForensics>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3T-kEuSYoSzUskriVH8M6w>

Course Assignments

To receive credit in this course, each student will need to compete at three or more tournaments over the course of the semester. At each tournament, you will be required to compete in at least two events during your first semester with the team and three for every semester thereafter. At the end of the semester, a short essay paper will allow you to reflect on your experiences during the semester and formulate ideas for future improvement.

Point Distribution

Assignments	Points Possible	Percentage of Total Grade
Tournament 1	150	30%
Tournament 2	150	30%
Tournament 3	150	30%
Final Reflection	50	10%
Total	500	100%

Assignment Descriptions

1. Tournaments

Over the course of the semester, students will be given multiple opportunities to test their skills and events in competition. You will compete in at least two preliminary rounds of each of your events and will either participate in or observe final rounds. Please check the tournament schedule at the end of the syllabus for a complete listing of potential tournaments. Students will receive credit for participating in these events. Each student must participate in three tournaments over the course of the semester to receive full credit for the three tournament assignments.

2. Final Reflection

At the end of the semester, each student will complete a two page reflection essay or an in-person meeting about their experiences competing for the UK Forensics Team. This assignment should discuss the major discoveries with each of the student's events and what they plan to improve for the next semester of competition. If the student has completed reflection papers or held discussion from previous semesters of this course, they should also assess whether or not they met their previous goals during this semester of competition.

Grades

Grading and Grading Scale

A	450-500 points
B	400-449 points
C	350-399 points
D	300-349 points
F	299 points or less

All students in the class start out with 0 points. By competing in tournaments and submitting assignments, you will be able to earn points towards your final grade. This course will function just like the workplace you will find after graduating. Showing up is not enough to get a paycheck. You must complete the work and will receive points for assignments in proportion to the quality of the product.

I will not round grades up at the end of the semester, so do not ask me to do so. If you earned 359 points in the course, you will receive a "B". Your future boss will not allow you to go redo a project from a month ago, and neither will I. Decide what grade you must earn to be satisfied with your performance in the course now and create a game plan to achieve it.

Mid-term Grade: Mid-term grades will be posted in myUK by the deadline established in the Academic Calendar (<http://www.uky.edu/Registrar/AcademicCalendar.htm>).

Final Exam Information: The final exam period for this course can be found on the University's Academic Calendar. (<http://www.uky.edu/Registrar/AcademicCalendar.htm>). However, this course will not meet during the week of final exams except under extraordinary circumstances.

Accommodations Due to Disability

If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please see me as soon as possible during scheduled office hours. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide me with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Multidisciplinary Science Building, Suite 407, at the corner of Rose Street and Huguelet Drive, 859-257-2754, email address: dtbeac1@uky.edu) for coordination of campus disability services available to students with disabilities.

Military Members and Veterans

We recognize the complexities of being a member of the military community and also a student. If you are a member of the military or a military veteran or dependent, please inform your instructor if you are in need of special accommodations. Drill schedules, calls to active duty, mandatory training exercises, complications with GI Bill disbursement, and other unforeseen military and veteran related developments can complicate your academic life. If you are aware of a complication, we will work with you and put you in contact with university staff members who are trained to assist you. Please contact the Coordinator of the University of Kentucky Veterans Resource Center at 859-257-1148 for additional assistance. Visit <http://www.uky.edu/veterans> for more available resources.

Event Descriptions

PUBLIC ADDRESS EVENTS

After Dinner Speaking: An original, humorous speech by the student, designed to exhibit sound speech composition, thematic, coherence, direct communicative public speaking skills, and good taste. The speech should not resemble a night club act, an impersonation, or comic dialogue. Audio-visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforced the message. Minimal notes are permitted. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes.

Communication Analysis: An original speech by the student designed to offer an explanation and/or evaluation of a communication event such as a speech, speaker, movement, poem, poster, film, campaign, etc., through the use of rhetorical principles. Audio-visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforce the message. Manuscripts are permitted. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes.

Informative Speaking: An original, factual speech by the student on a realist subject to fulfill the general aim to inform the audience. Audio-visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforce the message. Multiple sources should be used and cited in the development of the speech. Minimal notes are permitted. Maximum time is 10 minutes.

Persuasive Speaking: An original speech by the student designed to inspire, reinforce, or change the beliefs, attitudes, values or actions of the audience. Audio-visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforce the message. Multiple sources should be used and cited in the development of the speech. Minimal notes are permitted. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes.

INTERPRATATION EVENTS

Drama Interpretation: A cutting that represents one or more characters from a play or plays of literary merit. The focus of this event is on the development of characterization. This material may be drawn from stage, screen, or radio. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.

Duo Interpretation: A cutting from one or more texts of literary merit, humorous or serious, involving the portrayal of two or more characters presented by two individuals. The material may be drawn from any genre of literature. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, lighting, etc, are to be used. Presentation is from the manuscript and the focus should be off-stage and not to each other. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.

Poetry Interpretation: A selection or selections of poetry of literary merit, which may be drawn from more than one source. A primary focus of this event should be on the development of language. Play cuttings and prose works are prohibited. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.

Program Oral Interpretation: A program of thematically-linked selections of literary merit, chosen from two or three recognized genres of competitive interpretation (prose/poetry/drama). A primary focus of this event should be on the development of the theme through the use of narrative/story, language, and/or characterization. A substantial portion of the total time must be devoted to each of the genres used in the program. Different genre means the material must appear in separate pieces of literature (e.g., A poem included in a short story that appears only in that short story does not constitute a poetry genre). Only one selection may be original. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.

Prose Interpretation: An original or selections of prose material of literary merit, which may be drawn from more than one source. Focus of this event is on the development of the narrative/story. Play cuttings and poetry are prohibited. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time is 10 minutes including introduction.

LIMITED PREPARATION EVENTS

Extemporaneous Speaking: Contestants will be given three topics in the general area of current event, choose one, and have 30 minutes to prepare a speech that is the original work of the student. Maximum time limit for the speech is 7 minutes. Limited notes are permitted. Student will speak in listed order. Postings of topics will be staggered.

Impromptu Speaking: An impromptu speech, substantive in nature, with topic selections varied by round and by section. Topics will be derived from quotations or other prompts as determined by the tournament. Speakers will have a total of 7 minutes for both preparation and speaking. Timing commences with the acceptance of the topics sheet. Limited notes are permitted.

Radio Broadcasting: Contestants will be given a packet of source materials and will have 30 minutes to select, organize, and present a simulated radio broadcast. The source materials packet will include international, national, state, and local news. All material used in the broadcast must be provided by the tournament with the exception of any hypothetical station call letters, time, and current weather conditions or forecast. Students will present their broadcasts seated at a table with the judge facing away from the contestants during the speech. Students may time themselves as no time signals will be given by the judge. Maximum time limit for the speech is 5 minutes. Postings of source materials will be staggered.

DEBATE EVENTS

Lincoln-Douglas Debate: Individual, evidence-based debate, following NFA-LD rules with a single policy resolution for the entire year. Speaking times follow a 6-3-7-3-6-6-3 format with 4 minutes of preparation time per debater during the round. Complete event information can be found at <http://www.nationalforensics.org/lincoln-douglas-debate>.

Parliamentary Debate: Partnered, limited preparation debate, following NPDA rules with a changing resolution each round. Speaking times follow a 7-8-8-8-4-5 format with 15 minutes of preparation time before the round begins. Resolutions can be policy, value, or fact. Complete event information can be found at <http://www.parlidebate.org/npda-rules/>.

Public Debate: Individual, limited preparation debate, following IPDA rules with a changing resolution each round. Speaking times follow a 5-2-6-2-3-5-3 format with 30 minutes of preparation time before the round begins. During this preparation time, competitors may use source materials to develop their arguments. Resolutions can be policy, value, or fact. Complete event information can be found at <http://www.ipdadebate.info/constitution--bylaws.html>.

Additional Student Resources

The **Presentation U Tutoring Center**@The Hub is located in B-24 of the W. T. Young Library (phone 859-218-5186). Presentation U provides tutoring assistance and training with multimodal communication skills and projects. Both UK faculty and students have the opportunity to attend workshops and work individually with highly trained faculty members, graduate students, and peer tutors. Come see us if you would like help brainstorming potential project topics, constructing outlines, using APA or MLA style, practicing oral presentations, as well as designing/constructing/using effective presentational aids (e.g., PowerPoint, Prezi, websites, videos, and digital projects). When you come to the Presentation U Tutoring Center@ The Hub, YOU can become the Ultimate Presentation. Visit [UK | Undergraduate Education | Presentation U!](#) to check out our hours of operation and/or to schedule an appointment. Presentation U! also offers a satellite location on the 1st floor of Champions Court I. This location offers the same services as Presentation U @ the Hub to assist students with their multimodal communication needs

The **Multimodal Communication Lab (MC3)** is located in 107A Grehan (phone: 859-218-0221 or 859-257-8370). The MC3 is your go to location for assists on class presentations of all types. You have the opportunity to work one-on-one with peer tutors with experience and specifically trained in presentational methods. We offer several resources: Brainstorm potential oral, written, and visual presentation topics; organize content and develop outlines; use proper APA/MLA style in outlines and papers; develop and use effective presentational aids, including PowerPoint, poster sessions, and Prezi, improve public speaking delivery; and Create effective digital texts (e.g., websites, blogs). You can also schedule an appointment online at: <http://cis.uky.edu/icd/mc3-schedule>

The Study located in 306 Complex Commons Building, is responsible for programs and services for students intended to promote effective learning strategies in and out of the classroom in order to enhance the academic experience of all students at the University of Kentucky. For more details check out the website at: <http://www.uky.edu/AE/>

The Writing Center is located in W. T. Young Library, Room 108B in the Hub (phone: 859-257-1368). The staff can help you identify and correct problems with your writing. You can also schedule an appointment online at: <http://wrd.as.uky.edu/writing-center>

The **Media Depot** is located in the basement of William T. Young Library and will have video and audio recording rooms, computers for editing multimedia projects, collaborative spaces, and staff to assist students with multimedia needs: <http://www.uky.edu/ukit/mediadepot>

Tentative Travel Schedule

Date	Tournament	Location	Events
1/23-1/24	Hatfield and McCoy Swing	Huntington, WV	IE, Radio, IPDA, LD ¹
2/5-2/6	Icebox Classic	St. Cloud, MN	IE, Parli ²
2/19-2/20	Kentucky State Tournament	Bowling Green, KY	IE, Radio, Parli, IPDA ³
3/16-3/20	Pi Kappa Delta National Tournament	Lexington, KY	IE, Parli, IPDA, LD ⁴
4/14-4/18	National Forensic Association National Tournament	Muncie, IN	IE (no POI), LD

¹ Improvisational Duo

² Interpretation of Children's Literature

³ Editorial Impromptu

⁴ Public Forum, Policy Debate, Worlds Debate, Congress, Readers Theater, Interviewing, Editorial Impromptu