

Updated October 2014

Senior Speech / Original Oratory

TEXTBOOK: none

PEREQUISITES: Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior Speech (or Drama)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is an advanced application of the principles of oratory and rhetoric. The students will apply the rules of rhetoric presented in sophomore and junior English in the preparation of their own persuasive/argumentative speeches. They will apply the oratorical skills presented in freshman, sophomore, and junior speech. They are graded on these skills. They will write and perform one 5 to 7 minute speech related to thesis as well as a variety of exercises as devised by the instructor. They will learn techniques to assist in college prep such as writing cover letters and thank you notes, and interview procedures, as well as persuasive speaking. Speech is held once a week, and graded only at the semesters.

COURSE GOALS:

- To perfect students' public speaking skills
- To make students comfortable in presentations before groups of people
- To perfect the students' ability to convey his/her own ideas in public.
- To Perfect the components of persuasive/argumentative speech and write 2
- To further develop skills of memorizing material
- To write a persuasive speech
- To practice techniques in interview and college prep

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- To understand the correct ways to present an idea to an audience
- To understand the correct ways to compose an idea for presentation
- To understand and to recognize the vocal and physical criteria for oral expression
- To understand the criteria for being a good audience member

COURSE SEQUENCE:

Semester 1

- I. Review the criteria for effective oral and physical presentation
- II. Students will learn cover letters, resumes, and thank you cards.
- III. They will perform an interview of college prep questions.
- IV. Assign the first speech (3-5 minutes persuasive pet speech)
- V. Research and writing of the first speech
- VI. Present the first speech

Semester 2

- I. Assign the second speech on thesis topic
- II. Students research, write and practice second persuasive speech
- III. Presentation of second speech
- IV. Selection of speakers for the speech contest in May.

EVALUATION: Speech rubrics (Gestures, Eye contact, voice, accentuation, confidence, memorization) as devised by the instructor and grades on the written speeches consistent with principles of effective writing.

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