



## **Speech and Debate**

### **Course Summary:**

In this course, the student will learn how to apply visuals, style, stories, organization, and nonverbal communication to speeches. The student will learn tactics to help overcome fear, participate in debates, and rehearse effectively. The student will also learn how to evaluate great speeches from history as well as more modern media messages.

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## **Course Outline**

### **1. Style and Nonverbal Communication**

1. The Process of Learning Speech and Debate
  - Become aware of strengths and weaknesses as a speaker
  - Identify and use elements of classical speech forms
2. Body Language and Verbal Skills
  - Examine and explore body language techniques of expert speakers
  - Assess how language and delivery affect the mood and tone of oral communication and make an impact on the audience
3. Voice Control and Eliminating Verbal Tics
  - Master control of vocal communication and eliminate verbal tics
  - Use effective and interesting language for effect, clarity, and specificity
4. Movement and Advanced Nonverbal Skills
  - Master advanced level body language and vocal techniques

### **2. Fear of Public Speaking**

1. Why There Is Fear of Speaking
  - Examine the origins of public speaking
  - Summarize a speaker's purpose and point of view
  - Evaluate a speaker's content, delivery, and attitude
2. Fear Elimination Techniques
  - Learn techniques for minimizing a fear of speaking

### **3. Organizing a Presentation**

1. Fundamentals of Speech Organization
  - Organize presentations to enhance audience comprehension
2. Audience Engagement
  - Learn methods for engaging an audience
  - Analyze the occasion and the interests of the audience and choose effective verbal and nonverbal techniques to engage them
3. Delivering Benefits to the Audience

- Understand the importance of delivering benefits to your audience
- Choose effective verbal and nonverbal techniques to communicate with the audience based on the occasion and the audience's interests

4. Delivering Information in a Speech
  - Explore effective ways of delivering data in a presentation
  - Deliver a presentation that narrates a sequence of events and communicates their significance to the audience
5. Making Key Points Memorable
  - Practice telling a story within a speech

#### **4. Making Presentations Memorable**

1. Storytelling Techniques
  - Use stories to enhance a presentation
  - Present stories that follow a relevant sequence of events
2. Establishing a Setting
  - Create concrete images to establish a story's setting
  - Choose appropriate techniques for developing the introduction in a speech
3. The Use of Dialogue
  - Construct and practice dialogue techniques
4. Explaining the Problem in a Story
  - Recognize the role of conflict in a presentation
  - Resolve issues with a presentation's length
5. Role of Emotion in Storytelling
  - Examine how emotions are used in storytelling and speaking situations
  - Deliver a narrative presentation that communicates the significance of an event

#### **5. Using Visuals**

1. PowerPoint and Other Visual Aides
  - Use visual aides and electronic media to enhance the appeal and accuracy of presentations
2. The Audience-Focused Speaker
  - Master the technique of focusing on your audience and not the visuals
  - Summarize a speaker's purpose and point of view
  - Ask questions concerning the speaker's content, delivery, and attitude toward the subject
3. Slide Construction Fundamentals
  - Present information in a concise way, focusing on one idea per slide
  - Analyze the occasion and the interests of the audience and choose effective verbal and nonverbal techniques
4. Integrating Visual Elements With Speaking
  - Use props, visual aides, graphs and electronic media to enhance the appeal of accuracy of presentations
  - Identify the aesthetic appeal of a media presentation and evaluate the techniques used to create the effects
5. Planning for Technical Problems
  - Gain skills for coping with unexpected problems in a presentation

#### **6. Debate and Persuasion**

1. Debate Fundamentals
  - Analyze historically significant speeches to identify memorable rhetorical devices and features
  - Analyze the techniques used in media messages and evaluate their effectiveness

- Summarize the speaker's purpose, content, delivery, and attitude toward the subject
- 2. Advanced Debate Techniques
  - Deliver persuasive arguments in a coherent, logical fashion
- 3. Debate Tactics in the Public Sphere
  - Draw conclusions about the ideas under discussion and support the conclusions with convincing evidence

## 7. Great Speeches in History

- 1. Political Speaking
  - Analyze historically significant speeches to find the rhetorical devices and features that make them memorable
- 2. Business Affairs Speaking
  - Learn techniques and examine methods of communication from business leaders
- 3. Cultural Affairs Speaking
  - Analyze recent speeches to find the rhetorical devices and features that make them memorable

## 8. Media Communication

- 1. Media Strategies
  - Analyze strategies used by the media to inform, persuade, entertain, and transmit culture (advertising; stereotyping, visual representations, special effects, language)
  - Analyze the types of arguments used by a speaker
- 2. Politics in The Media
  - Analyze the impact of the media on the democratic process at the local, state, and national level
- 3. Media in Society
  - Deliver multimedia presentations that incorporate information from a wide range of media
  - Analyze strategies used by the media to inform, persuade, entertain, and transmit culture
  - Analyze the types of arguments used by a speaker
  - Deliver persuasive arguments that structure ideas and arguments in a coherent, logical fashion.

## 9. Preparation, Rehearsal and Continual Improvement

- 1. Speech Preparation Systems
  - Create a system for preparing presentations
- 2. The Rehearsal Process
  - Examine rehearsal techniques that will improve your speech performance
- 3. A Speaking Database
  - Construct and understand the importance of maintaining a speaking library and presentation database

## 10. Final Exam

- 1. Lifetime Speaking Goals
  - Assess what you have learned during the Speech and Debate course