



High School Speech
Mr. Booth – Room 105
Hours: 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Remind App: @ifaa-hs-sp
Schoolology Access Code: TVGF-T5DQ-3M52N

MAJOR CONCEPTS/CONTENT:

The speech course is designed to prepare students to create speeches that reflect careful thought in planning, organization, and delivery. Content includes, but is not limited to, identifying the purpose and audience for the speech; selecting the general topic and refining to a specific topic; making a statement of the thesis; selecting appropriate resources and information; outlining; creating a bibliography; selecting main points and supporting information; preparing appropriate visual aids; modifying information for a particular audience; writing introductions and conclusions; using appropriate delivery techniques; evaluating delivery, content, and pattern of organization using specified guidelines; delivering oral or written critiques; and evaluating a speech according to established criteria.

MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Instructional activities will be provided in a general classroom setting or in a theatre or auditorium when available. Student activities will include, but will not be limited to, reading, viewing, and listening extensively to find the purpose for a speech or debate; researching to identify the intended audience; practicing the development of an argumentative thesis statement; applying research skills to gain ideas and collect supporting information on the topic; creating a bibliography; drafting and finalizing the speech; delivering the speech, evaluating the student's own speech and classmates' speeches and debates; critiquing speeches and debates orally or in writing; using audiovisual media in critiquing speeches; and making suggestions for improvement of others' speeches and debates. Student activities may also include participation in dramatic and/or humorous interpretation, extemporaneous speaking, impromptu speaking, and storytelling.

MAJOR EVALUATIVE TECHNIQUES:

Students will be evaluated primarily through the appraisal of their researching, composing, and delivering of speeches and debates. Students are also evaluated on participation in class activities and discussions and on reliability and dependability of participation in speech events, class activities, and speech performances.

ESSENTIAL OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of the speech course, students should be able to:

- Recognize the various ways of organizing and verbalizing logical thought processes.
- Participate in many kinds of speech presentations.
- Participate in critiques that focus on distinct, effective, and correct speech.
- Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing your own ideas clearly and persuasively.
- Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
- Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.
- Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning, and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.
- Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and communicative tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

COURSE GRADING/ASSESSMENT:

In each semester, there will be four categories in which students will be evaluated:

- Individual and group activities.
- In- and out-of-class activities.
- Quizzes and tests.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS/CONSEQUENCES:

Each day in class you will:

- Come to class prepared and on time.

- Maintain a “portfolio,” a place to keep graded homework, scripts for speeches and other course materials and notes.
- Because of the unique nature of the work in this class, it is imperative that you maintain and demonstrate “sensible respect and courtesy” for the rights of anyone you interact with in the classroom (e.g. no put downs, don’t talk when someone else is talking, raise your hand to ask or answer a question, etc.).
- Use positive language at all times.
- Exhibit the dignity, cooperation and responsibility necessary for any and all speech presentations.
- Respect other students and their possessions.
- When evaluating other speakers, offer constructive criticism.
- Be aware of deadlines for long-term assignments and prepare for unforeseen absences.
- Survive the entire period without electronic distractions and only use electronics when permitted to do so.
- Survive the entire period without gum, food or drink.
- Treat all equipment and speech materials with respect.
- Speech and what we’ll study in class is a *discipline* that requires hard work; but it is also fun, so enjoy it!

SUPPLIES (REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED):

Students may be asked to supply presentational materials for some speeches. Students also are required to keep a notebook or binder for class as they will have lecture notes on a variety of topics related to their study of speech.

ATTENDANCE:

- Your period attendance is mandatory and absences must be cleared at the office.
- Unexcused tardies and absences will be dealt with according to school disciplinary policy.
- Because some work is impossible to make up, alternative assignments may be given.
- It is YOUR responsibility to check with me about homework or assignments you may have missed while absent. As long as an absence is excused, you will be allowed to make up the work you missed.

HOMEWORK:

- Homework will not be accepted late. Special circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Homework will be considered late if it is not presented at the beginning of class or when requested.
- All long-term projects and/or presentations will be completed on time.

MAKE-UP WORK POLICY:

Students must get assignments before they leave school for any pre-arranged absences. It is the student’s responsibility to collect all missing work after being absent from class. There will be a time period given to complete work based on the type of assignment.

PLAGIARISM:

Students are responsible for understanding plagiarism. Merriam Webster defines the term “plagiarize” as “to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one’s own: use (another’s production) without crediting the source... to commit literary theft.” We will discuss this concept at length in class. I fully expect students to do their own work.

GRADING POLICY:

This class is based on a point system and follows a standard percent grade scale:

90-100%=A 80-89%=B 70-79%=C 60-69%=D 0-59%=F

Grading categories and weights are as follows

- Classwork (10%) – daily grades, in-class and home work
- Projects (40%) – speeches presented
- Quizzes (15%) – tests (other than performance-based work)
- Assessments (25%) – intermediate goals, such as speech topics, outlines, first paragraphs, first drafts, etc.
- Final (10%)

TEACHER ACTIONS:

If you fail to follow classroom rules/expectations, the following will result:

- I will talk with you in private.
- Parent contact by phone.
- Parent/teacher/student conference.
- Referral to administration for disciplinary consequences.