COMM 191A1-A2 - Forensics Workshop  
&  
COMM 192A1-A2 – Argumentation & Debate Workshop  
Syllabus

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Course website: (information related to course events and activities):  
http://www.ohlone.edu/instr/speech/seminars.html

What is this course all about?
You can earn one or two units of transferable credit by enrolling in the Ohlone College Non-Traveling Forensics Team (COMM 191/192) by attending one required class meeting, participating in speeches/performance events or debates, critiquing speeches/performances or debates, attending the assigned number of presentations, and the writing critiques on the presentations. This class is transferrable to the CSU system, meets an elective requirement for your AA/AS degree or count towards your Communication Studies Certificate or AA degree.

***NOTE: Students must fill out a contract at the beginning of the semester declaring their intent to participate in this course’s leadership and communication activities. Students MUST also attend one orientation meeting in order to receive full credit for the course.  
Signed contracts are due by September 28, 2016 or, immediately after you register (if you register after September 28th).

What are the goals of this course (Student learning outcomes)?
By the end of the semester, you (the student will):

- Critique and evaluate oral presentations (speeches, debates, meetings) using criteria for that event.
- Participate in course meetings and/or online trainings to critique oral performances including speeches, oral performances, and debate.

What do I have to do?
For the one-unit courses:
- Attend/participate in four speakers/performers or public meetings
- For each speech or event you attend, you must submit a 2-3 page typed critique of the speaker or event.
- Two critique papers must be turned in on or before Friday, Nov 18, 2016.
- The final critique paper is Friday, Dec 9, 2016, the last day of instruction for this semester. Please submit papers to Larissa Favela in Fremont Portable, FP-22 or in the faculty mailroom in Fremont Portable, FP-29 on the Fremont Campus.
- No late papers will be accepted and emailed papers are not accepted.
- Papers must be…
  - Typed and stapled!
  - Font 10-12, reasonable style (for example, Arial or Garamond)
  - 1.0” margins all around
  - Include your name and the number of units you have registered (i.e., Spch 110-A1).
  - Include the speaker/event and the date of the event
  - Content should be clearly organized
  - Ideas should be well developed and supported
  - Quality of writing should reflect collegiate level writing skills

For the two-unit courses:
- Attend/participate in six speakers/performers or public meetings.
- For each speech or event you attend, you must submit a 2-3 page typed critique of the speaker or event
- Four critiques papers must be turned in on or before Friday, Nov 18, 2016.
• The final two critique papers are due Friday, Dec 9, 2016, the last day of instruction for this semester. Please submit papers to Larissa Favela in Fremont Portable, FP-22 or in the faculty mailroom in Fremont Portable, FP-29 on the Fremont Campus.
• No late papers will be accepted and emailed papers are not accepted.
• Papers must be…
  o Typed and stapled!
  o Font 10-12, reasonable style (for example, Arial or Garamond)
  o 1.0” margins all around
  o Include your name and the number of units you have registered (i. e., Spch 110-A1).
  o Include the speaker/event and the date of the event
  o Content should be clearly organized
  o Ideas should be well developed and supported
  o Quality of writing should reflect collegiate level writing skills

In order to earn three units of COMM 191/192, you are required to enroll and participate on the Ohlone Forensics team. The Forensics team is required to travel, participate, and compete in the collegiate tournaments across the state and country. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Larissa Favela (lfavela@ohlone.edu) or Natalie Kellner (nkellner@ohlone.edu) for more information.

Please remember…
• It is your responsibility to fill out and turn in your forensics contract September 28, 2016, declaring your intent to participate in this courses communication and leadership activities.
• If your contract has not been received by November 17, 2016, you will receive a “W” for the course. We just want to ensure your success so students don’t wait until the end of the term to complete their activities.
• It is your responsibility to find out dates and times for any approved events. Please check the Speech Department’s Speaker’s Series website at:
  http://www.ohlone.edu/instr/speech/seminars/
  You can also check the Monitor, Ohlone’s newspaper, or www.ohlone.edu to check for the weekly events. You can also attend any of the Science Seminars. Please see this website:
  http://www.ohlone.edu/instr/sciencetechnology/scienceseminars.html
• A sample paper is posted for your reference on the Forensics website.
• Written critiques cannot be emailed so please print them out and turn them in to Larissa Favela’s mailbox in the mailroom in Fremont Portable, FP-29 on the Fremont Campus or to Larissa Favela’s office in Fremont Portable, FP-22, Rm 103 on the Fremont Campus (feel free to slide under door if no one in office).

Grading Criteria & Additional Requirements

Students who complete the contract, and turn in the required number of papers that follow the critique format (organization, delivery and content) and are typed and carefully proof read with few to no grammatical errors will receive an A in COMM 191/192A1-2. Students who do not follow these guidelines may receive a lower grade. Students who turn in less than 70% of the required work or the papers are not written at a collegiate level will receive a non-passing grade. You are responsible for enrollment in the course. If at the end of the semester your name is on the class roster and you have not attended or participated in the required activities or turned in your critique papers, you will receive a failing grade.

COMM 191/192 – Forensics/Oral Interpretation/Argumentation & Debate Workshop Approved Activities

The following list of activities is approved for COMM 191 & 192 – Forensics/Argumentation & Debate/Oral Interpretation Workshop courses.

For the one unit class (COMM 191/192A1), students must complete FOUR of the following options.
For the two-unit class (COMM 191/192A2), students must complete SIX of the following options.

Papers for these events should include a summary of the speech and a critique of the presentation. The critique should include comments on content, organization and delivery.
Public Speeches
- Attend ANY Speech & Communication Studies Department Speakers
- Attend ANY Brown Bag Seminars at Ohlone College including: Math, Science, & Technology Science Seminars
- Attend World Forums at Ohlone College – Dates to be announced
- Attend ANY Club Speakers including Speech Communication Club speakers
- Attend Poetry Night or Speech Night
- Attend or participate in a public debate or a public speech in your community. Please get prior approval.
- Attend or participate in the Ohlone College On-Campus Spring Fling or Speech Night, contact your COMM instructor for more information about registration.

Please check the Ohlone College Monitor or www.ohlone.edu for all dates, times and location of events.

Meetings
- Attend or participate in ANY Inter Club Council (ICC) meeting. Meetings & Room TBA
- Attend or participate in ANY Associated Students of Ohlone College (ASOC) meeting. Meetings are Tue. from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Room TBA
- Attend or participate in ANY Speech Club meeting. Meetings to be announced.
- Attend or participate in ANY Ohlone College Board of Trustees meeting. Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wed. of every month at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st floor of Building 7.

Reaction papers for these events should include a summary of the meeting agenda and a critique of the meeting format and decision making process.

Forensics Class & Tournaments
- Attend ANY Forensics/Argumentation & Debate class meeting. Class meets on Tue. and Thurs. from 2:15 - 5:00 p.m. in 4104A
- Attend or participate in the Ohlone College Poetry Night or Speech Night. Date, Time and Room TBA
- Attend an intercollegiate Forensics Tournament. See http://ncfa.org for calendar

Critique papers for these events should include a brief summary of the speech and a critique of the presentation. The critique should include comments on content, organization and delivery.
Speech Analysis Guidelines

As part of this class you are required to complete an analysis of a speech/presentation/meeting/or event. In order to fulfill this requirement, you are expected to write a 2-3 page paper (unless noted) analyzing 1) The content of the speech, 2) the speaker’s delivery & speaking style and 3) your analysis of the overall effectiveness (strengths and areas of improvement) of the speech/presentation/meeting/event and your response to the speaker’s message. It is probably a good idea if you took notes on the whole speaking presentation. Feel free to attach to your paper.

The Content
In this analysis, I will be looking for a brief summary of the overall message of the speech. I would like further exploration into –

- What were the main points of the speech? How were they easy/not so easy to follow?
- How were these main points developed? (i.e., Use of examples? Use of statistics?, etc…).
- What are your thoughts on how the message was developed?
- How was the message ‘worded’? What language was used? Did any terms or phrases really make an impression, repeated, or seem strategic?
- Who was the intended audience? What cues/language clued you into who is the intended audience? How would you evaluate the speaker’s ability to address the intended audience?

The Delivery
In this analysis, I will be looking for your personal, subjective impression of the speaker’s message, and style from your perspective as an audience member. I would also look for further examination and discussion of –

- How did the speaker try to increase or strengthen his/her credibility? Was s/he effective? Why or why not?
- How would you evaluate their delivery skills? (i.e., eye contact, vocal projection, composure, etc…). What made a positive/negative impression and why?
- How did the speaker seek to meet the needs/wants/emotions of the audience? How effective was the speaker?
- Did the speaker communicate his/her message clearly? Why or why not?

Overall effectiveness
In the conclusion of this analysis, tell me what you think, what impressions did the speaker/the message make on you, did they ‘reach’ you as part of the audience, did you learn anything or hear anything valuable? I want you to end with your opinion.

This paper should be typed, 1 ½ to double spaced, 1 in. margins all around and should include the event information – who the speaker was, the title of the presentation (if there was one), the time it took place, and where the event took place. I expect this paper to be in essay format, reflect collegiate level writing standards, and free of spelling or grammatical errors. Here are a few ideas for a speaking event that will be acceptable:

- The Communication Studies Dept. Speech or Poetry Night.
- The Communication Studies Department and Club speakers
- Attend one of the Ohlone Speech Forums. Details and dates TBA.
- Attend one of Ohlone’s Brown Bag seminars this semester
- Attend a meeting on campus, such as an Ohlone Forensics team meeting (T/Th 4104A, 2:15 – 5:00pm) or an Ohlone College Board meeting.

Please deliver a hard copy to my office in Fremont portable, FP-22, room 102. Or, you can deliver to my mailbox in the mailroom in Fremont Portable, FP-29. **No email submissions will be accepted.**