Fairfax Collegiate

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Persuasive Speaking 3-4 Syllabus



Course Goals

1 Argument Development

Students learn how to create well-reasoned arguments for a debate.

2 Respecting Opinions

Students learn how to respect the opinions of others and tactfully reason with them.

Course Topics

1 Public Speaking

Students learn what public speaking is and how to appeal to an audience.

2 Affirmative Argumentation

Students learn how to argue their side of a case in a debate.

3 Reasoning and Evidence

Students learn the importance of sound reasoning and factual evidence in a debate.

4 Constructing a Speech

Students learn how to create a speech that holds the attention of an audience and has a clear purpose. They also learn how to use inflection to become a more powerful speaker.

5 Rebuttals

Students learn how to tactfully question or criticize an opposing viewpoint.

6 Persuasion in the Media

Students learn how television commercials use persuasion, and they create their own commercial using the techniques they have learned.

7 Research

Students learn the importance of good research in a debate, and they learn how to discern factual information from biased information.

8 Persuasion in Politics

Students learn how politicians use persuasive speaking techniques in their speeches.

9 Practical Usage

Students learn how the techniques of persuasive speaking can be applied to everyday life.

10 Selling a Product

Students create a business proposal that they present to the class using persuasive speaking techniques.

Course Schedule

Day 1

Introduction

Students introduce themselves to the instructor and to each other, and they receive a general overview of the class.

Speaking Effectively

Students discuss the characteristics of a good public speaker.

Purpose of Public Speaking

Students learn the purpose of speeches and the different types of speeches that one can give.

Appeal to an Audience

Students learn how to make an argument effective for an audience.

Day 2

Affirmative Argumentation

Students learn how to argue their point of view in a debate.

Reasoning and Evidence

Students learn how to use reason and factual evidence to strengthen arguments.

Applying an Argument

Students use the skills they have learned to formulate an argument concerning a relevant topic.

Day 3

Speech Creation

Students learn how to write an effective public speech.

Thesis Statements

Students learn the importance of thesis statements in writing speeches.

Speech Delivery

Students learn how inflection can be used to alter the meaning or purpose of a speech before delivering speeches of their own.

Day 4

Devil's Advocate

Students learn how to argue tactfully against an idea in opposition to their own.

Word Choice

Students learn how different shades of meaning and the emotional force of words impact word choice in speeches.

Day 5

Commercials

Students learn how persuasive techniques are used in television commercials and then create their own commercial.

My First Business Overview

Students begin to think about a business proposal they will present on the final day of the session.

Day 6

Research

Students learn the role of research in a debate, and they learn how to find good information.

Idioms

Students learn how understanding idioms is important for a speaker and write a short story using an idiom.

Day 7

Persuasion in Politics

Students learn how much politicians rely on persuasive speaking techniques while preparing speeches.

Day 8

Practical Usage

Students participate in activities that show how persuasive speech can be used in everyday lives.

Raft Debate

Students participate in a persuasive speaking exercise focusing on their own good qualities.

Public Speaking Reinforcement

Students participate in activities that improve their public speaking abilities and their focus.

Day 9

Review of Concepts

Students participate in an activity to review the concepts they learned throughout the session.

My First Business Preparation

Students prepare the presentation about their business proposals which will be given the following day.

Day 10

My First Business Presentations

Students present the business proposals they had worked on throughout the week.

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