

**Putnam City High School**

**Debate I & II**

**SY: 2018-2019**

**Instructor: Daniel L Smith**

**Room: 135 & Auditorium**

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**School Vision:** All Pirates will be college and/or career ready.

**School Goal:** All Pirates can read to learn and write to express their learning.

**Faculty Mission:** We believe in providing best first teaching through planning, building relationships, and providing feedback on learning to ALL students.

**Major Concepts:** Welcome to the PCHS Debate Squad!!! Debate is both a class and a competitive activity. It is concerned with the communication process, oration (speaking), legal research and writing, argumentation, and logic. Its purpose is to teach students to cope with the complexities of human relationships in modern society, communicate with others in a meaningful way and critically evaluate ideas and policies. Students should examine debate and discourse as a part of daily life, as a way of enhancing knowledge and skills, and as a means of expression. All students will benefit from ongoing research and public speaking activities.

**Materials Needed:**

- Pencils and pens (*blue, black, and red ink*)
- Yellow highlighters, and additional colors
- Wide or College Ruled Paper
- Legal Sized Note Pads (*a 3 pack is great to start*)
- Journal/Composition Book (*first one is provided for you and stays in the classroom*)
- Student Planner (*You will receive an agenda grade at the end of every quarter. You are expected to keep a record of all assignments in every class as well as your extracurricular activities.)*)
- 3-Ring Binder that is 1 inch in width. It will only be used for this class (*You will keep all class handouts including this syllabus in it, and will use it to make your portfolio*)
- 6 divider tabs (*These go in your binder and should be labeled 1. Resume/Headshot, 2. Pictures, 3. Awards and Achievements, 4. Letters of Recommendation, 5. Notes/Homework/Tests 6. Miscellaneous*)
- A personal laptop (*optional*)
- Dress attire for competitions (Gentleman: slacks, belt, button down shirt, dress shoes, tie optional Ladies: appropriate length skirt, slacks, or capris, belt, button down shirt, blouse, or sweater, and dress shoes) Clothes should be washed and pressed for competition, and hair should be neat and tidy. Wearing deodorant is appreciated. See me if you need help with this.

**Attendance:**

Attendance is vital to the learning process. The theatre is rooted in action and we will therefore be on our feet the majority of the time. Missing a class will put you far behind and will result in a participation grade of F for the day of the in-class performance or activity. Extenuating circumstances and activity absences will be considered, but it is the student's duty to work that out with the teacher. It is the student's responsibility to reschedule the performance or activity time. The preferred method of communication for this is e-mail. Do not be late!!! If you must be tardy please be sure there are no performances going on before entering. If there is a performance going on, please wait in the hall until you hear applause before knocking.

***Consequences for violation of the tardy policy are found in the discipline section of the handbook.***

**Ten-Day Activity Absence Policy:**

The State Board of Education encourages students to be in attendance in their regularly scheduled classes so that maximum learning can occur. Educational programs are built on the foundation of continuity of instruction and participation in the classroom setting. The Ten-Day Activity Regulation will apply to activities which require students to miss one or more class periods. Activities which require students to miss less than one class period are not considered activity absences. Exceptions to the 10-Day Activity Regulation will include only state-mandated programs which require differentiated instruction such as the Gifted and Talented program. Guidelines for Extension of the 10 Day Absence Regulation

1. The number of activity absences beyond the 10-day limit must not exceed five (5) additional activity absences.
2. A student must have a 2.0 G.P.A. from the previous grading period with no "F's".
3. The Activity Office will maintain a list of the students who accumulate activity absences in any class period. Students may inquire about activity absences at any time.
4. Teachers may deny requests for additional activity absences beyond the first 10 days if a student does not have a "C" average in the class on the date of the request.

**Projects/Assignments (*including but not limited to*):**

- Written Speeches
- In class speech delivery
- Competitive Performance Piece(s)
- Essays
- Reading Assignments
- Self-Evaluation
- Observation and Feedback
- Professional Portfolio & Resume
- Participation in Youth and Government
- Weekly Journal
- Daily Agenda
- Special Projects
- Tests and Quizzes (*will occasionally take the form of a performance exam*)

**Selecting Material:** Please select material that is in your age range! I prefer pieces not come from a monologue book. If you do select a piece from a monologue book, it is imperative that you obtain and read a complete copy of the play. I am open to foreign plays; however, do not select pieces requiring an accent or dialect. We will discuss the application and use of accents and dialects appropriately in regards to specific competition pieces and for shows. If you have trouble choosing a piece please visit with me.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated!!! This will automatically result in a referral. You will not receive a warning.

**Assignments and In-Class Work:** All work should be completed using complete sentences and should be in legible hand writing. Responses should be thoughtful and in depth; paragraph form should be used when appropriate. Heading goes in the upper-right hand corner (name, date, hour, assignment title).

**Warm-up Protocol:** Warm ups will be taught to the class. The instructor will lead warm ups for the first three weeks, it is then the speaker's responsibility to handle warm ups on his/her own. When you arrive in class on a performance day, sign in (it is your duty to do so, and the excuse "I was there but didn't sign in" is not going to fly) and begin warming up. Please remove all jewelry, tie up hair, and NO GUM! If you are present but not warming up or in correct attire you will be marked late. If you arrive late for class it is *YOUR* responsibility to notify the instructor and ensure that your name is recorded on the roll sheet. This policy will be observed to optimize efficient use of class time and to mirror the expectations of the professional world.

**Professional Commitment:** The purpose of this class is to train and prepare students to be college and career ready. It is expected that you will work in a disciplined and professional manner. If you do not know what professional manner is, ask me. An attitude of courtesy and respect for the work of others must be maintained at all times. It is vital that this classroom be a safe space where artists can take risks, experiment, fail, try again, fail better, and excel. Rude behavior and comments will not be tolerated and may result in the offending student being removed from the class.

**Paperwork:** All research papers and projects must be typed, double spaced and stapled. Please only use TIMES NEW ROMAN, CALIBRI, or HELVETICA font size 12. Late papers and papers that are not typed will not be accepted. Failure to submit character and text analysis will preclude performance work and thus result in a grade of F for that project.

#### **Grading Scale:**

Grading will be based on a few key factors and a performance scale will be provided for each assignment. The following general factors will be applied: *Attendance*-Were you in class and did you participate in exercises? *Papers*-Was your text analysis thorough and did it follow the guidelines handed out in class, as well as the syllabus instructions? Did you answer all questions thoroughly and accurately in your character analysis? *Performance*-Was the actor off book? Did the actor connect with the partner? Were beats/thoughts clear? Was there a clear 1-2-3? Was the actor present in the moment? Did the actor make strong choices?

90%-100%	A	Participation	10%
80%-89%	B	Homework	15%
70%-79%	C	Project	30%
60%-69%	D	Test	25%
59%-Below	F	Final Exam	20%

Expectations/Classroom Rules:	Consequences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be on time (<i>If you are not in your assigned seat by the time the bell rings you are late</i>).</li> <li>• Be polite. Treat others the way you want to be treated.</li> <li>• Raise your hand if you want to speak/answer.</li> <li>• Stay on task/use your time wisely.</li> <li>• No late work without prior arrangement with the teacher.</li> <li>• No cell phones, headphones, food, or drinks other than bottled water (PERIOD).</li> <li>• Take care of our equipment, spaces, and materials!</li> <li>• Don't be afraid to take risks/look silly! It is only through failure that we can know success.</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Verbal warning and a loss of participation points for the day.</b></li> <li>2. <b>Contact a parent and receive a detention. Loss of participation points for the day.</b></li> <li>3. <b>Sent to the office with a written referral. Loss of participation points for the day.</b></li> </ol>

**Procedures:**

- Students will enter the class and be seated before the bell rings or they will be counted tardy.
- Students will immediately record the lesson in their daily agenda.
- Students will complete any bell-work daily during the first five minutes of class and turn it in by the end of class on the last day of the week.
- Students will maintain a safe and courteous work environment where artists can take risks!
- Make-up Work: It is the student's responsibility to arrange make-up work in accordance with school and class rules. This should be done in advance if possible (*mandatory for activity absences*).
- Late Work: Late work is rarely accepted. If it is accepted you will receive a letter grade deduction for each day that it is late. If you need an extension on an assignment, you must request it in advance of the due date, not on it!
- Restroom Policy: You may use the rest room or go to the water fountain as long as a lesson or performance is not on progress. In other words, you may use the restroom or go to the water fountain during your personal work time. Please make sure you have a hall pass and you have signed it out/in appropriately. Restroom/fountain privileges may be revoked at any time. Only one student may leave the room at a time.
- Students will be assigned seats during the first week of each semester. The instructor reserves the right to re-assign students at any time for any reason. Students will need to be in their assigned seats daily and before the bell.
- Paper Headings: Paper headings should include your first and last name, the date, the class subject and period, and the assignment title. Headings should be in the upper right-hand corner.
- Collecting Papers: Homework assignments are always due by the end of class on the due date. They should be turned in, face down, to the appropriate box at the student station.
- Contact Information: *Students* – should you ever need to speak with me you may do so before or after school, or between classes. My door is always open. You may also send me an e-mail if you prefer to communicate that way. Remember, that is the preferred method of communication if you are rescheduling an assignment or test date. *Parents* – Please feel free to e-mail or call if you have any questions or concerns. I will make the best effort to return your e-mail or call within 24 hours; please know that during play productions my schedule is very hectic and I will return your message as soon as possible. I am also happy to set up an office time to meet with you in person. [dsmith@putnamcityschools.org](mailto:dsmith@putnamcityschools.org) or 405-789-4350 ext. 2039.

**Competition:** \*\*You are required to compete in two speech tournaments per semester. There are multiple opportunities to receive tournament credit each semester. Please plan ahead. Except in extreme circumstances, no alternative assignment will be given. Period!\*\*

**Qualifying:** \*\*IF YOU QUALIFY FOR REGIONALS, STATE, AND/OR NATIONALS, YOU MUST COMPETE OR YOU FAIL THE CLASS\*\*

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**Tournament Registration/Drops:** You must register for competition by the Friday of the week before the tournament. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the classroom along with the deadline. You will be responsible for any drop fees incurred after the deadline due to: cancellation for any reason, missed rounds, and/or you no show the tournament. No exceptions will be made.

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**Fundraising:** You will be required to raise funds. Fundraising is necessary to cover our expenses (entry fees, judging fees, transportation costs, play production etc). This is required by every theatre and debate student. You will be charged all of your tournament fees when you attend a tournament if you are unable to fulfill your obligation to fundraise.

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**Fees:** A typical tournament charges our team the following fees:

Entry fee: \$3.00-\$10.00 per event depending on the event in which you are participating.

Drop fee: \$50.00 for debate and duets and \$25.00 for each individual event.

Judging fees: \$25.00 per judge, per day. 1 judge per 2 debaters, thus \$12.50 per debater, per day of competition.

**These fees are an Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association rule and they do not make any exceptions.** If a drop fee or other penalty is incurred at the fault of the student or parent/guardian, then that fee will be charged to the student's account and a hold will be instituted. That fee must then be cleared with the registrar.

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**Photos/Online Presence:** Photos of performances, competitions, field trips, etc, will be taken of students from time to time and published for theatre and/or debate team purposes, district purposes, and archival purposes. If a student cannot, or does not wish to have their photo taken or to be identified online, then the appropriate box must be marked on the signature page. Mr. Smith should also be verbally informed as a precaution.

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**Travel:** This document serves as an advance permission slip providing blanket coverage for students to travel speech and debate tournaments, field trips, etc via PC district transportation. Additional notice and individual permission slips will be sent home for each trip. This is a provisional (read just in case) permission slip as outlined in the team handbook. Students and parents/guardians must, at all times, abide by the rules and procedures for travel and behavior that are outlined in both the PCH Student Handbook, as well as the PCH Theatre & Debate Handbook.



We have read the Debate syllabus and we understand all the procedures and rules regarding Debate. We have also read and understand that all students must follow the guidelines stated in the Theatre and Debate handbook and the PCH student handbook when traveling and/or competing. We understand that it is our (both parent/guardian and student) responsibility to communicate to Mr. Smith any concerns or problems prior to a conflict.

We understand that when a student attends speech/debate tournaments and activities that they are representing the tradition of PC and the excellence it continues to achieve. The student's behavior will reflect that understanding.

I grant permission for my student to attend theatre/debate trips. **(circle one)** Yes No

I grant permission for my student to be photographed and for any photos to be published online or in other print materials for theatre and debate purposes. **(circle one)** Yes No

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**Please fill in the information boxes below using blue or black ink.** Contact and medical information is maintained for emergency situations only. All listed information is held in confidence according to FERPA regulations.

Student Name:	Student Signature:	Date:
Guardian Name:	Guardian Signature:	Date:
Guardian Email:	Home:	Cell:      Work:
Home Address:		
Emergency Contact 1:	Relationship:	
Emergency Contact Address:	Home:	Cell:      Work:
Emergency Contact 2:	Relationship:	
Emergency Contact Address:	Home:	Cell:      Work:
Family Physician:	Physician Contact Number:	
Physician Address:	Permission to transport via ambulance? <b>(circle one)</b> Yes No	
Preferred Hospital:		

Please list any known allergies, medications taken, and/or medical conditions:

Additional Comments: