

## South Jordan Middle School

### Debate

Mr. Lassen or Coach Lassen ([Nicholas.lassen@jordandistrict.org](mailto:Nicholas.lassen@jordandistrict.org))

Office Hours: By appointment

## Class Information and Disclosure

### Class Description

This goal of this class is to introduce first year students to basics concepts of persuasion and argumentation. These students will be exposed to each of the various events of competitive speech and debate. By the end of this course students should have a basic understanding of the following debate events: Policy Debate, Lincoln Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, Congressional Debate. They will be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of the following speech events: Impromptu, National and Foreign Extemporaneous, Original Oratory.

### Topics we will cover in this class

- Introduction to Speech and debate
- Persuasion and Refutation
- Policy Debate
- Impromptu Speaking
- Public Forum Debate
- Extemporaneous Speaking (National and Foreign)
- Lincoln Douglas Debate
- Original Oratory
- Congressional Debate
- Interp Dramatic/Duo/Humorous
- Program Oral Interpretation
- Informative/Worlds Schools Debate/Big Questions
- Judging and Judges
- Speech and Debate and College
- Performance of Knowledge

### Classroom Behavior

For all students to learn and assist in each other's learning, students must practice self-accountability and social responsibility. Students will demonstrate this by following classroom rules and expectations. Students are expected to contribute daily to classroom activities and often provide constructive feedback to theirs peers. This will contribute to the interactive learning environment needed in speech and debate.

**Attendance:** Receiving academic credit for this class is dependent upon the conditions outlined in the South Jordan Middle School Attendance Policy.

**Tardiness:** Be in your seat when the class begins so we can start in a timely manner. If you are tardy, just take a seat and do not interrupt the lecture that is being given.

**Materials** – You are expected to have the following items every day in class:

- Pen/Pencil
- Paper
- Time Keeping Device
- Great Attitude

### Media Policies

Throughout this course, we will be viewing media that will help support learning objectives. All material will be of good taste and will only be used to help promote student learning. These materials will follow South Jordan Middle School media policies. Please contact me if you would like a list of links to the content we use in this course.

## Classwork and Grading

You will receive points for every assignment, test or quiz that you are assigned during the quarter. The points from all these items will be added up and the percentage earned will determine your quarter grade. Grades will be calculated on the following percentage scale:

93-100 = A	80-82 = B –	67-69 = D+
90-92 = A-	77-79 = C+	63-66 = D
87-89 = B+	73-76 = C	60-62 = D –
83-86 = B	70-72 = C –	Below 60 = F

**Students should check their assignment scores on Skyward. It is always a good idea to check your scores periodically to make sure they have been recorded properly.**

## Grading Rubric

This course will be graded along the following metric

70% Assessments – This will include things like weekly quizzes, performing speech events, engaging in debates to demonstrate knowledge

30% Practice – This will include classroom participation and activities and written assignments on Persuasion and Topic Analysis.

## Coursework Expectations

- This class has a higher participation requirement versus some of your other classes. The nature of the activity makes participation and feedback vitally important.
- Late Work – Assignments are due at the beginning of class to be considered on time. Each week an assignment is late will result in 10% reduction of the maximum score. Late Work will only be accepted up the middle of the term if it is the first half or the end of the term during the second half.
- Make up Work - Students missing work due to an absence will be given an extra day for each day of absence to complete missing work without penalty (truancies may not be made up). Emergency extensions may be granted on teacher approval. It is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher to find out what work needs to be made up after an absence.
- Class work that has been missed due to an excused absence will be accepted the class period following the student's return without penalty. Students should be proactive in getting what they missed.

## Classroom Expectations

Show a high level of respect for yourself, others and the classroom.

Phones should only be used as a time keeping device for a speech or for research.

Students will always adhere to the Jordan District Dress Code

Students will take a hall pass when leaving the room, if a hall pass is not available students must wait for one before leaving. There will be no hall passes given during the first or last 10 minutes of class.

Students are expected to cite and give credit to the original authors whenever they use another's work. If found to be plagiarizing a student will receive no credit for the assignment in question.

Thanks for reading this! Let's have a fun and productive year semester!

Coach Lassen

Please Sign and return this to get your credit for your disclosure and being wonderful.

I have reviewed the Debate Disclosure and I am aware of the requirements and responsibilities of this class.

PRINTED Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_