Clear Creek Independent School District

**Course Syllabus 2019-2020**

Each secondary teacher in the Clear Creek Independent School District furnishes a course syllabus to students and parents during the first week of a course. This document contains general information about the course in which the student is registered and specific information from the teacher regarding the section in which the student is enrolled.

**Course Title:** Debate II-IV-ISM

**Teacher Name:** Mr. Michael Rutledge

**Teacher Conference Time:** 3rd and 6th Periods

**Contact Information:** 281-284-2100 x42285 or mrutledg@ccisd.net (Note that there is NO “e” at the end of my last name for email purposes)

**Approximate Timelines and Due Dates of Long-Term Projects:**

This course will include study and participation in projects that will include, but not necessarily be limited to, the communication process, interpersonal communication, listening, group discussion and public speaking as a foundation to the techniques of debate. Specific areas that will be targeted will include:

* Lincoln-Douglas Debate
* Cross-Examination Debate
* Public Forum Debate
* Student Congress
* Extemporaneous Speaking (Foreign and Domestic)
* Individual Events (Prose, Poetry, Duo, Duet, HI, DI, etc)
* Mock Trial (time and resources allowing)
* Oral Interpretation (as appropriate)

The continued focus of this class in the 2019-2020 school year is about judicious spending of money and resources of the team. As such, students, while being expected to participate in area tournaments will only be allowed to compete after being determined by officers and sponsor(s) that adequate preparation time has been spent on the events chosen.

By the end of the first week of school students will be expected to “declare” an event focus for which they will set goals for and work toward. This will allow class time to be used as lab time for direct preparation, practice and critiquing by classmates and instructors.

Students will also be responsible for remaining current on newsworthy events that happen in both domestic and foreign theatres. Students will be tested on a weekly basis over these events.

Students shall also follow all provisions of the Clear Brook Speech & Debate constitution and by-laws. A signed copy of the last page is due back to Mr. Rutledge no later than the second week of classes, August 30th.

This class will center on the student’s travel to area tournaments for competition to refine his/her debate and other performance skills. An exact schedule will be given to all students. Independent study is also a major component of this course, as is peer tutoring and assistance for novice competitors. Grades will be weighted most heavily on a student’s ability to travel to area tournaments for competition as well as their focus to tournament and other preparation during class time. Your student set of By-laws and Constitution details this information. Please refer.

***See curriculum on ccisd website for additional information***

**General Methods of Assessment and Grade Calculation:**

In a non-core area curriculum high school credit class, Major Grades will comprise 45% - 65% of the nine-week average. These grades will include: Alternative Assessments (performances) IF WARRANTED, Examinations/Tests, Term Papers (if applicable), **tournament participation** and practices and other assignments. This assessment will count the same as other class tests/assessments. **This will be set at 50% of student’s grade.**

In a non-core area curriculum high school credit class, Daily Grades will comprise 35% - 55% of the nine week average. Daily Grades include Class Work, Homework, Notebooks, Quizzes and other assignments. **This percentage shall be set at 45% with an additional 5% focused on Reading.**

**Average Amount of Homework:**

The average amount of homework will depend largely on the student’s ability and in what does/doesn’t get accomplished in class. In most cases, students should be able to complete any homework in 30 minutes or less.

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For all state-approved courses, the State of Texas has developed the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) which define the guidelines under which Clear Creek ISD must develop the objectives for the course. These TEKS are cross referenced to the CCISD curriculum objectives. In addition, CCISD objectives are also cross referenced to the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) objectives.

The complete TEKS document, which was approved by the Texas State Board of Education (July, 1997), may be found on the internet at [www.tea.state.tx.us/teks](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/teks) and is accessible by teachers, parents, and students.