

CEDAR CREST COLLEGE
THS 106 – Fall 2008 Tuesday 12:00 – 12:50PM
Forensic Speech Team
Alumnae Little Theatre

INSTRUCTOR: Tim Brown
Office: TCC 335 / Phone: x3581
tbrown@cedarcrest.edu

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday and Thursday – 2:30 – 5:00PM; or by appt.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: *“Participation in forensics competition including public speaking and oral interpretation events. Students work with instructors and fellow team members to develop speech and oral interpretation skills. Students meet weekly and train for regional competitions throughout the semester. Students are expected to prepare for and compete in at least two tournaments per term.”* (1 credit)

TEXTBOOK: **WELCOME TO FORENSICS!** Packet – this will be distributed in class.

OUTCOMES: After preparing for a competition, team members will acquire a set of oral presentation and interpretation skills that will aid them in artistic and research projects. Group communication as a team will develop the ability to work as a unit that functions at a high level of productivity.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

As with any team, EVERY member of this team is expected to attend ALL classes and to participate fully. While I am dropping requirements for minimum tournaments, please know that the whole purpose of signing up for the Forensic Speech team is to participate in Forensic Speech tournaments. If a Team Member is unable to make it to a significant number of Tournaments, a meeting will be scheduled with the Team Director to discuss future participation on the team. ALL team members will be expected to attend coaching hours as scheduled, as well as POD meetings, in addition to other coaching, as directed by the Team Director.

Grades can and will be affected by these requirements. This class is significantly different than most, in that it is a prep class for a **TEAM** competition. As such, all members of the team must work together, with one another, and for one another. Yay, team.

POLICIES:

- 1) Students may only miss **one** coaching hour and 12 hours notice must be given;
- 2) **Everyone must attend all coaching hours scheduled during the semester.** This is individual coaching scheduled on a weekly basis;
- 3) ALL FINAL DECISIONS regarding competition will be made by the Coach. We can't register every member of the Team for Prose or Duo, as an example, and so final decisions on which pieces will compete will be made by the Coach. Members will also be encouraged to expand into categories other than their "comfort zones."
- 4) All members of the team are responsible for adhering to the Code of Conduct.

HONOR CODE AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

You are required to abide by the Academic Policies of this college. This information can be found in the 2006-2007 Cedar Crest College catalog, or online.

DOCUMENTATION OF DISABILITIES

Students with documented disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact the Advising Center. See the Student Handbook for complete information.

CLASSROOM PROTOCOL AT CEDAR CREST COLLEGE

The Student Handbook states that *"Appropriate classroom behavior is implicit in the Cedar Crest College Honor Code. Such behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to be a courteous, respectful classroom environment."* In a plainer parlance, that means that **when you're IN class, BE in class. Respect the class.** No cell phones. No text messages. No sleeping. No working on homework for other classes. No late arrivals or early departures without permission. *"Get a job. Cut your hair. Don't do drugs. Stay in school."* I anticipate that everyone in my classes will know enough to understand the concept, but if not, please consult the Student Handbook, and if questions remain, please ask.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE FOR FALL 2008

Sept. 27-28, 2008	Towson/SNAFU Swing – Towson, MD
Oct. 4-5, 2008	GMU/JMU Swing – Fairfax, VA
Oct. 25-26, 2008	Linda Baas Memorial/SNAFU – CEDAR CREST
Nov. 1-2, 2008	Akron Swing – Akron, OH
Nov. 15-16, 2008	NYU/SNAFU Swing – New York City
Dec. 6-7, 2008	Seton Hall Swing – South Orange, NJ

CLASS SCHEDULE –***(subject to change)***

Tuesday, Aug. 26th	Intro. to Course and Overview of Season
Tuesday, Sept. 2 nd	Organizing for Team and District Workshop
Saturday, Sept. 6 th	DISTRICT VII WORKSHOP – 8:00AM – 6:00PM
Sunday, Sept. 7 th	TEAM RETREAT – OZZY’S SPORTS FUN CENTER – 10:30AM – 6:30PM
Tuesday, Sept. 9 th	POD A Presents
Tuesday, Sept. 16 th	POD B Presents
Tuesday, Sept. 23 rd	POD C Presents – Prep for Towson
SEPT. 27-28th	TOWSON SWING
Tuesday, Sept. 30 th	POD D Presents – Prep for GMU/JMU
OCT. 4-5th	GMU/JMU SWING
Tuesday, Oct. 7 th	Group Work - Impromptu
Tuesday, Oct. 14 th	FALL BREAK
Tuesday, Oct. 21 st	PREP FOR HOSTING OUR TOURNEY
OCT. 25-26th	LINDA BAAS MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT
Tuesday, Oct. 28 th	Take a breath... and prep for Akron
NOV 1-2th	AKRON SWING
Tuesday, Nov. 4 th	POD A&B Presents
Tuesday Nov. 11 th	POD C&D Presents and Prep for NYU
Nov. 15-16th	NYU/SNAFU SWING
Tuesday, Nov. 18 th	POD A&B Presents
Tuesday, Nov. 25 th	POD C&D Presents
Tuesday, Dec. 2 nd	Prep for Seton Hall Swing
DECEMBER 6-7TH	SETON HALL SWING
Tuesday, December 9 th	Team Wrap-Up and Celebration

PODS

As a requirement of participation in Tournaments, members of the Forensics Team must participate fully in their respectively assigned PODS. Pod assignments will be given in class, and will meet for an hour, once a week, at a time mutually agreed upon by members of the Pod.

Each pod will be assigned with a blend of varsity and novice team members. Each pod will elect a member of the pod to be the Pod Leader, who will be responsible for management of the group, will present status reports to the group about progress being made on work within the pod, and will ensure timing of competitive projects.

Pods will be responsible for presentation in class on the assigned week in the syllabus. This time can be given to full presentation of a piece, or cuttings of work by each member of the pod. Time allotted for each pod will be determined the week prior by the Coach.

CODE OF CONDUCT

All members of the Forensics Team are representatives of Cedar Crest College, and maintain significant visibility during competition. As such, it is important that all members of the Team adhere to this Code of Conduct:

- 1) All Members of the Team will be PREPARED for competition. This includes proper preparation of materials, appropriate attention given to timing of materials, and rehearsal with introductions. NO piece will be eligible for competition without approval of Coach. NO exceptions. It may be the best piece ever, but if I haven't seen it, it's not going. If materials are not sufficiently prepared, the piece will not be registered for competition, or will be dropped at the competition;
- 2) If it's illegal, it's illegal – no exceptions during travel. Underage drinking, the purchase of alcohol for those not of legal age, and the consumption of any other illegal substances is strictly forbidden. In addition, excessive consumption of alcohol by those of legal drinking age will be forbidden. "Excessive" will be determined by the Coach;
- 3) All Members will observe a curfew during travel, which will be determined by the Coach for each specific tournament;
- 4) All Members will conduct themselves during travel and at tournaments in a PROFESSIONAL manner. This includes competition and time spent away from campus as a Team

Failure to observe these rules can and will result in an effect on your class grade, competition probation, and/or removal from the Team.