

## HS206 Public Speaking and Debating Skills

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Credit: 3-0-0-3

Prerequisite: Consent of the faculty member

Students intended for: B.Tech

Elective or Core: Elective

Semester: Even/Odd

**Course objective:** The course is addressed to practical needs of students today who are called upon to make professional presentations or to participate effectively in group discussions, in meetings, debates and the like. In the main, it seeks to enable the student to develop sufficient argumentation skills and to articulate ideas and viewpoints with confidence. Stress on techniques of oral presentation, free public speaking and effective delivery add to the overall requirements of this program.

**Course content:**

- Organizing the Material: Stating the Problem; Collecting the Facts; Getting and Evaluating Other Inputs; Ways of Proving; Planning the Message; Writing and Reviewing; Revising and Editing.
- Basic Concepts of Argument: Familiar Notions of Argument; Assumptions: The Substrata of Argument; The Anatomy of Dispute; Issues; Validity, Truth and Ethics; Public Disputes and Audience Response; Applications.
- Argument in Contemporary Society: Advertising as Persuasive Process; Argument in Politics; Argument in Law; Media: Argument in News Reporting, Persuading the “Informed Public”; Argument in Science and Technology; Argument in Law and Literature; Argument on Stage and in Film; Argument in Cartoons; Argument in Song and in Lyric; Argument in Interpersonal Relations/ Intercultural Relations.
- Acquisition of Domain Vocabularies in Contemporary Functional English, Standard Idioms and Phrases, Discourse Markers, Proverbs and Sayings.

**Method of Evaluation:**

2 Oral Quizzes (Presentation/ GD) and End of Semester (Oral)

**Prescribed Reading Material:**

Select Reading Material can be had of the Instructor.

In addition excerpts from:

Edward P. J. Corbett: Classical Rhetoric for the Modern Student. New York (OUP) 1965.  
(With Robert J. Connors, 4/1998)

THE HANSARD. Edited verbatim report of the proceedings of both the House of Commons and the House of Lords. ([www.parliament.uk/business/publications/hansard/](http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/hansard/))

**Recommended Reading:**

G. Stuart Adam & Roy Peter Clark: Journalism. The Democratic Craft. (OUP) London/New York 2005.

Mathew Allen: Smart Thinking. Skills for Critical Understanding & Writing. (OUP) London/New York 2004.

Cleanth Brooks & Robert Penn Warren: Modern Rhetoric. New York (Harcourt) 1958.

Cleanth Brooks Robert Perm Warren: Fundamentals of Good Writing. A Handbook of Modern Rhetoric.(Harcourt) New York 1949 (Fitts Press Repr.2008.)

Edward P.J. Corbett & Robert J.Connors: Style and Statement. (OUP) London/New York 1999.

Eric Henderson: The Active Reader. Strategies for Academic Reading & Writing. (OUP).London/New York. 2012.

J. Michael Sproule: Argument. Language and its Influence. (McGraw-Hill) New York 1980.