

## **Course Description**

### **SPC2511 | Argumentation and Debate | 3.00 credits**

The principles of argumentation, including analysis, evidence, inference and refutation, and their application to issues of current public interest. The course provides opportunities for debating practice. Prerequisite: SPC2608 or equivalent.

**Competency 1:** The student will develop advanced skills in constructing persuasive arguments and presenting compelling debates in various contexts by:

1. Crafting and delivering persuasive arguments with precision, eloquence, and confidence, utilizing rhetorical devices and persuasive language tailored to diverse audiences and contexts
2. Articulating and defending complex ideas and viewpoints through compelling debates, active listening, and responsive argumentation to effectively counter opposing perspectives
3. Engaging in rigorous research, analysis, and evidence synthesis to support persuasive arguments and refute opposing claims, demonstrating a nuanced understanding of logical reasoning and critical thinking in debate settings

**Competency 2:** The student will demonstrate proficiency in researching, analyzing, and synthesizing evidence to support their arguments and counterarguments effectively by:

1. Employing advanced research methodologies to gather diverse and credible sources of evidence, utilizing critical evaluation to discern the relevance and reliability of information for argumentative purposes
2. Applying systematic analysis and evaluation techniques to deconstruct and interpret complex evidence, identifying underlying assumptions and logical fallacies to strengthen the cogency of arguments and counterarguments
3. Synthesizing multiple sources of evidence into cohesive and coherent narratives, effectively integrating diverse perspectives and data to construct compelling and well-supported arguments across various discourse contexts

**Competency 3:** The student will exhibit a comprehensive understanding of rhetorical strategies, logical reasoning, and critical thinking skills essential for successful argumentation and debate by:

1. Demonstrating the application of diverse rhetorical strategies, such as ethos, pathos, and logos, to persuade and influence audiences in argumentative and debate scenarios effectively
2. Utilizing advanced logical reasoning to construct sound and valid arguments, identifying and addressing logical fallacies to strengthen the coherence and persuasiveness of their positions
3. Engaging in critical thinking by evaluating, deconstructing, and challenging opposing viewpoints, demonstrating intellectual agility and analytical depth in argumentation and debate

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information
- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning