

## Debate.

Mehlville School District  
English Language Arts  
Grades 9 - 12, Duration 1 Semester, .5 Credits

### Rationale

Debate class enhances students' decision making and the theory of argumentation abilities. Students' learning of case building, use of reasoning and evidence, refutation, and cross-examination in argumentative speech help develop rational citizens who can react with thought and reason in life. This course may only be taken one time.

### Course Description

This course offers the student extensive practice and experience in a variety of argumentative situations, encouraging individual thought, analysis and synthesis based on perceptive criticism. The student will participate in at least one full competitive debate tournament, requiring time after school; thus, the student must be MSHSAA eligible.

### Prerequisites

Prerequisite: Public Speaking, Acting or with current teacher approval  
Open to 9, 10, 11, 12 Credit:  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Unit –  
One Semester (English Language Arts)

### Course Objectives

The student will create arguments containing a claim, warrant, evidence, and an impact.

The student will create questions and logical responses to opposing arguments appropriate to National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) debate formats.

The student will demonstrate logical reasoning and analysis of arguments and evidence.

The student will read, research, and cite evidence appropriate to the NSDA debate format (A+ Research) (A+ Reading).

The student will write affirmative and negative cases and extended evidence adhering to NSDA format requirements (A+ Writing).

The student will develop confidence and poise in oral communication through a variety of speaking opportunities including at least one interscholastic competitive debate tournament (A+ Speaking and Listening).

BOE Approved: 12/14/17