

# ORAL DISCOURSE Course Proposal

## General Education Committee/Undergraduate Studies – LC 30

COURSE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ COURSE TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

PROPOSER: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

INSTRUCTOR(S): \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the following information:

- A. A copy of the course syllabus.
- B. Is this a *new* course? ! yes ! no
- C. Will this course *always* be taught as an Oral Discourse course? ! yes ! no
- D. The following criteria are required of Oral Discourse courses at Albany. Please indicate how the course will fulfill these criteria for each student in the class.

**ORAL DISCOURSE:** Approved courses provide opportunities for students to develop the oral communication skills they need to participate more effectively in public and academic debates and discussions. Courses offer opportunities to participate in a variety of communication contexts and to reflect on the principles and theory relevant to specific oral communication activities. Approved courses include instruction on presentation, as well as feedback and evaluation of oral performance.

Approved courses generally have a minimum of two exercises in which oral performance is required and graded. An oral performance exercise can be accomplished in any of the following activities, either live or in a crafted recording:

- 1) A discussion within a group, where each member will be required to make 3-5 “paragraph-length” contributions in the course of the discussion A stand-up monologue presentation of a minimum of 3-5 minutes
- 2) A question and answer dialogic process where the student fields a succession of questions or asks a succession of questions that build on and comment upon prior answers
- 3) A rehearsal, theatrical presentation, or interpretive reading
- 4) A stand-up monologue presentation of a minimum of 3-5 minutes
- 5) A debate where each participant speaks for a minimum of 3-5 minutes

Students will be made aware of the criteria that will be used for evaluation of these performances. Examples of criteria that may be used include persuasiveness, organization, presentation of evidence, validity of argument, contact with the audience, vocal punctuation and expressiveness, oral language style suited to the exercise, appropriate volume and pace of speech, poise and comfort, vocal fluency, eye contact, and active listening. The final grade in oral discourse courses will include the grade for oral performance as a key component.

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**ROUTING:** When the course proposal is completed, the department, school or program must have the proposal reviewed and approved by its respective college or school. It is then submitted to the General Education Committee. Any questions concerning the approval process should be directed to Anne Hildreth, General Education Committee Chair, LC31, 442-3994. FAX: 442-4159. E-mail: [Hildreth@albany.edu](mailto:Hildreth@albany.edu)

**APPROVAL ACTION:**

Department/Program Chair: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

College/School Dean or Designee: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

General Education Committee liaison: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_