



Department of Plant Protection

College of Agricultural Engineering Sciences

University of Salahaddin-Erbil

Subject: Academic Skills

Stage: First

Lecturer's name: Dr. Karzan Kazm Mahmud –

Mr. Sazar Sami

Academic Year: 2022/2023

Course Book

1. Course name	Academic Skills
2. Lecturer in charge	Dr. Karzan K Mahmud – Mr. Sazar Sami
3. Department/ College	Plant Protection/
4. Contact	e-mail: karzan.mahmud@su.edu.krd Tel: (+9647504523086)
5. Time (in hours) per week	3 hours (1 theoretical and 2 practical).
6. Office hours	All the days of week except Friday and Saturday.
7. Course code	
8. Teacher's academic profile	
9. Keywords	Debate, Critical thinking, Report, Presentation, Poster
10. Course overview:	<p>Academic debate course is added to first-year curriculum in all Kurdistan Public Universities in 2011 as part of curricula development process to prepare students to university life.</p> <p>This course is designed to develop students' abilities and skills in academic communication, argumentation and debate</p>
11. Course objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To foster critical thinking and thoughtful expression2. To appreciate the diversity of social relations in communities3. To develop intellectualism and confidence of expression
12. Student's obligation	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1- Attendance is mandatory. You should attend all the classes on time otherwise; you may miss important discussions that may arise during the class. Such material may be asked on exams. Additionally, If the student doesn't attend the class for more than 3 lectures, the student will be fired, considered as fail and must repeat the course for the next academic year.2- Learner-centered approach is implemented,3- Students relate what they read and study to their environment(meaningful learning),4-Students are responsible for their learning,5-Learning is a social process,6- Knowledge is constructed, not only transferred

13. Forms of teaching

Various forms of teaching will be used during the course including:

1-Lecturing:

This form of teaching will be practiced for different topics in particular weeks that are more theoretical in order to define and explain them. Videos and presentation will be used to achieve the goals.

2-Discussion:

This form of teaching will be practiced for different topics in particular weeks to perform critical thinking and develop student's ideas in the class upon specific standards. These kinds of discussions will be started through construction of speech and/or simple common stories, bringing ideas on and supporting them. Debatable topics are then chosen from either department discipline issues or recent social and cultural issues.

3-Group work:

Through this method of teaching, students will be learnt how to conduct an activity or assignment with a group of students. This method will be delivered using leadership skills, time management skills, distribution of tasks, Data Collection, sharing information, accepting others viewpoints. This method is to learn how to group students in small groups (usually 3) to interact with each other to achieve the goal.

Types of interactions:

A- Oral Report: A speech presents findings, conclusions and decisions of a small group. They can typically be presented by one member of the group who summarizes what the group did and found out.

b- Symposium: A public presentation in which several people present prepared speeches on different aspects of the same topic.

c- Panel discussion: A structured conversation on a given topic among several people in front of an audience.

4. Practical activity

This method can be done by the teacher using:

A. MS Word (Font, Margin, Report Cover, Referencing, Word Counts).

B. MS Power Point (Poster Design, Presentation).

C- Collecting data (Survey, Interview skills)

D- Any practice on the side of Students.

4-Practical Activity

14. Assessment scheme

1.General Discussion and class activities: 20%

2. Report Writing: 20%

3. Poster: 20%

4. Academic debate and argumentation: 40%

A report and a poster are required in the re-take exam.

15. Student learning outcome:

Students will be able to:

- 1-Exercise debating skills and enhance abilities to express thoughtful, informed opinions in public settings.
- 2-Use reliable sources to gather evidence in a responsive, critical way.
- 3-Demonstrate skills of peaceful negotiation with others 3- Get familiar with the beneficial insects such as honey bees, pollinator insects and insects used in biological control programs and the ways of preserving such beneficial insects.
- 4-Prepare and perform an argument that is logically ground and contributes to the good of the community.
- 5-Identify emergent problems in communities and to see oneself as an active agent committed to the resolution of them.
- 6-Demonstrate openness to diverse viewpoints and to express a willingness to change as a result.
- 7-Demonstrate knowledge in learning communities using tools of technology for the common good.

16. Course Reading List and References:

- 1- Argumentation and debate: Critical thinking for reasoned decision making by Austin J. Freely and David L. Steinberg.
- 2- Rules of debate: Theory and Experiment. Eric S. Dickson _Catherine Hafey Dmitri Landaz. September 22, 2008
- 3- Thomas A. Hollihan and Kevin T. Baaske, The products and process of human decision making, Theory and practice in academic debate, a reference guide, david Snoball, et. al. 1994, second edition;ISBN:1-57766-362-4 waveland press 2006.
- 4- <http://debate.uvm.edu/critadv.html>

17. Practical Topics

Week	Activity
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1	Review Syllabus, Introduction to Debate (Brief, History & Formats, Overview of debate Skills
2	Group Formation, Introduction to Negotiation, Debate Skills and Critical Thinking
3	Current Issues in Kurdistan and issues in specific discipline, Topic Selection, students choose of debatable and universal topics
4	Intro to Research Skills (data collection, research structure, referencing), Citation Skills, Library Orientation, Retrieving and Evaluating
5	Research Skills, Annotated Bibliography, Note taking and Plagiarism, Task or Assignment Schedules, Time Management
6	Research Skills, Outline of Topic , Development of a Research Question
7	Essay or Report Draft 2000-3000 Word, revision of draft Peer Review and Feedback (in class)
8	Report /Essay Communication and Presentation Skills Power point Skills
9	Small Group Deliberate, Discussion Practice, 3-5 minutes (job interviews) Possible Power point presentations
10	Ethics of Communication/Diverse Viewpoints, Negotiation and Persuasion Skills
11	Group reformation, Debate Skills, Debate Formats
12	Debates
13	Debates
14	Debates/How to Make Event and Academic Posters
15	Presentation of Posters
16	College Competitions of Posters and Debates
17	University Level Competitions

18.Examinations:

- 1.General Discussion and class activities: 20%
2. Report Writing: 20%
3. Poster: 20%
4. Academic debate and argumentation: 40%

A report and a poster are required in the re-take exam.

19. Peer review