



Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to invite you to the 2014 Ohio University GradCo Swing. Hosted as part of our Forensics Pedagogy Seminar, the swing will consist of two one-day tournaments held on the campus of Ohio University in Athens, Ohio.

Each day the IE tournaments will offer Open and JV divisions in all IEs. On Saturday, we will host an open division (4 rounds plus finals) of College Public Forum. A six preliminary round (with appropriate out rounds) LD tournament will be held across both days, allowing LD competitors the opportunity to enter one flight of IEs.

In addition to all NFA IEs, as well as POI, LD and Public Forum, **each day we will also offer an open division of the following Public Communication events: Radio Broadcasting, Editorial Impromptu, Improvisational Duo Acting and Poetry Slam.**

You will find all of the necessary tournament information and event descriptions enclosed in this invitation, including a tournament schedule, event rules, and entry information. We look forward to seeing you here in Athens in February.

If you have questions about the tournament please contact Justin Foote at 763-458-2862 or email [jf411211@ohio.edu](mailto:jf411211@ohio.edu)

Respectfully,

Gus Foote  
Tournament Director  
Vice President, OU GradCo  
Assistant Director of Forensics  
Ohio University

Dan West  
Director of Forensics  
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Justin Rudnick  
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Treasurer, OU GradCo  
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## Tournament Information

**Events:** NFA event rules apply for all individual events (AFA rules for POI). We do not limit a school's number of entries per event, however, individuals may enter no more than three events in each pattern. Students who are entered in more than one event in any pattern are responsible for notifying their judges. Judges will not wait for contestants longer than the scheduled times. The following individual events will be offered:

### Pattern A

Extemporaneous Speaking  
Persuasive Speaking  
Dramatic Duo Interpretation  
Programmed Oral Interpretation  
Dramatic Interpretation  
Rhetorical Criticism  
Poetry Slam  
Editorial Impromptu

### Pattern B

Impromptu Speaking  
Informative Speaking  
Prose Interpretation  
Poetry Interpretation  
After Dinner Speaking  
Radio Broadcasting  
Improvisational Duo Acting  
NFA-LD

Students may NOT enter IE's and PF, though students may enter PF one day, and IE the next. Students in LD may only enter Pattern A IEs.

**Editorial Impromptu:** Students will be given a short editorial (ideally 3 to 5 paragraphs) to which they will develop a response. Students will be allowed nine minutes to divide between preparation and speech time. Speakers must speak for at least five minutes. Limited notes, prepared in the round, are permitted.

*Event Description:* Editorial Impromptu represents an attempt to return "impromptu" to impromptu speaking. The speech should involve the development of an argument in response to the thesis developed or opinion shared in a given editorial. The event resembles typical impromptu speaking in many ways, with the following important exceptions:

1. Topicality is more obviously inherent in the editorial format.
2. The development of argumentation is featured over pre-planned exemplification.
3. Social issues often ignored in other formats are fair game.
4. Historical editorials might also add a dimension to the event.
5. The sharing of opinion, as well as a consideration of the opinions of audience members may play a more central role,
6. The event more closely resembles real-life discussion than existing limited preparation formats.
7. Students are rewarded for possessing and articulating a wider breadth of knowledge than existing formats.
8. This format also encourages the development of skills related to evaluating arguments and analyzing rhetoric.

**Improvisational Duo** – Preparation time for Improvisational Duo is three minutes.

Preparation time is separate from performance time. Performance time must be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of six with a 30-second grace period. Contestants going over or under the allotted time and grace period may not be ranked first in that round. The judge should clarify with the students before they begin how time signals will be communicated and must then give hand signals as the contestants are performing to help them stay within the time limit. No make-up, costumes, props, or lighting are permitted, but a table and/or two chairs may be used. Doors and walls are considered props and must not be used. The scene must contain only two characters with equal sharing of dialogue. An introduction by one or both students is **REQUIRED** to set the scene, and a resolution of the conflict must be evident at the end of the scene. Excessive profanity, sexual innuendo, or excessive physicality (i.e. pushing, shoving, and striking) will be tolerated. Contestants are to remain outside of the room until it is their time to perform. Once they have finished with their performance they must remain in the room (unless they are cross entered) until the round is complete.

*Hints for Improvisational Duo Judges:* The scene must be a self-contained unit holding together a story itself. Students must resolve the conflict presented in the topic. Criteria for judging include teamwork of the actors, timing, movement, consistent characterization, good speaking skills, pantomime of props, and the comedic or dramatic effect of the scene on the audience.

**Poetry Slam:** Contestants will perform one self-authored poem. No introduction, other than the title of the poem, will be giving. Scripts may not be used. Maximum time limit is 3 minutes.

### *Poems and performance*

- 1) Poems can be on any subject and in any style.
- 2) Each poet must perform work that he or she has created.
- 3) No props, blocking, musical instruments, pre-recorded music or costumes.

The rule concerning props and blocking is not intended to squelch the spontaneity, unpredictability, or on-the-fly choreography that people love about the slam; its intent is to keep the focus on the words rather than poets who movement and/or dance to convey the ideas and meaning inherent in the words of the poem.

### *Sampling*

It is acceptable for poets to incorporate, imitate, or otherwise "signify on" the words, lyrics, or tune of someone else (commonly called "sampling") in their own work. If they are only riffing off another's words, they should expect only healthy controversy; if on the other hand, they are ripping off another poet's words, they should expect scornful contumely.

### *The No Repeat Rule*

Poems may not be repeated in prelims rounds. Students advancing to finals must perform one of their poems from prelims. Each poet should plan on bringing two original poems to compete.

### *The Three-Minute Rule*

No performance should last longer than three minutes. The time begins when the performance begins, with the statement (or a similar equivalent): "My poem is entitled (called, named, etc)..." No other introduction is necessary.

Judges will provide time signals. Performances lasting longer than three minutes and ten seconds should not be ranked first in the round.

**Radio Broadcasting:** Contestants will be given a packet of source materials and will have 30 minutes to select and organize a 5 minute simulated radio broadcast. All material used in the broadcast must be provided by the tournament with the exception of any hypothetical station call letters, time and current weather conditions or forecast and no more than one commercial (maximum 30 seconds). Maximum time limit for the speech is 5 minutes. Students will be seated at a table during the performance and may use a stopwatch since time signals will not be given. Judges will not face the contestant during the speech. Students will speak in listed order.

**Entry Deadline:** The deadline for all entries will be Tuesday, February 4, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. The deadline for changes (late adds or drops) will be Wednesday, February 5, 2013 at NOON. Late adds and drops will incur a \$10 per change fee. Drops at registration are \$25/slot. Dropped slots between tournaments are \$50/slot.

**Judges:** Each school is required to provide one judge for every six individual events entries, and one judge for every two debate entries or portion thereof. No judge may counted as both and PF and an IE or LD judge. LD judges can cover 2 LD entries AND 3 IE slots. Please attempt to cover your judging obligation; we would rather have your judges than your money. Dropped judges the day of the tournament will incur a \$100 nuisance charge in addition to uncovered judging fees.

**Fees:** Entry fees for individual events are \$10.00 per slot per tournament. Hired judges are \$12.00 per slot per tournament. Entry fees for debate are \$50.00 for each LD or PF entry. Hired judges are \$100.00 per PF entry and \$150 per LD entry.

**Registration:** Registration will be held in the Baker University Center on the Ohio University Campus.

**Hospitality:** A continental breakfast will be provided each morning, and snacks will be provided each afternoon. There is a \$3 per person charge for hospitality each day.

**Awards:** Trophies will be awarded to all students placing in y individual events and all students who advance to debate elimination rounds. Sweepstakes Awards will be awarded to the top three schools in debate, the top three Open Entry IE Schools, the top three Focused Entry Schools at each tournament and the top five overall School for the Swing. Individual Sweepstakes awards will also be presented to the top competitors entered in four or more events.

**Entries:** Please register for the tournament at [forensicstournament.net](http://forensicstournament.net). If you have not used this site before, you will need to create an account before you will be able to register. You will need to register for each tournament separately.

**2014 Ohio University GradCo/Forensics Pedagogy Swing**  
**Ohio University**  
**February 8 & 9, 2014 – Athens, Ohio**

**Saturday, February 8, 2014 – Ohio U GradCo Tournament**

7:00 – 8:00 am	Registration for IE's – Grover Center
8:00	Extemp Draw
8:30 – 9:45 am	Round I Pattern A, PF 1
9:45	Broadcast Draw
10:15 -- 11:30 am	Round I Pattern B, PF 2, LD 1
11:30	Extemp Draw
Noon – 1:15 pm	Round II Pattern A, PF 3
1:15	Radio Draw
1:45 – 3:00 pm	Round II Pattern B, PF 4, LD 2
3:00	Extemp Draw
3:30 – 4:30 pm	Finals/Round III Pattern A PF Finals
4:30	Broadcast Draw
5:00 – 6:15 pm	Finals/Round III Pattern B, LD 3
7:00 pm	Awards Ceremony

**Sunday, February 9, 2013 – Forensics Pedagogy Seminar Tournament**

8:00	Broadcast Draw
8:30 – 9:45 am	Round I Pattern B, LD 4
9:45	Extemp Draw
10:15 -- 11:30 am	Round I Pattern A
11:30	Broadcast Draw
Noon – 1:15 pm	Round II Pattern B, LD Quarters (if necessary)
1:15	Extemp Draw
1:45 – 3:00 pm	Round II Pattern A
3:00	Broadcast Draw
3:30 – 4:30 pm	Finals/Round III Pattern B, LD Semis
4:30	Extemp Draw
5:00 – 6:15 pm	Finals/Round III Pattern A, LD Finals
7:00 pm	Awards