



**VINCENNES  
UNIVERSITY**

**TRAILBLAZER SPEECH TOURNAMENT**

**February 10, 2024**

**JUDGE'S GUIDE**

To access your ballots:  
[www.live.speechwire.com](http://www.live.speechwire.com)

# VINCENNES UNIVERSITY CAMPUS MAP - 2022



**BY BUILDING NUMBER**

01 WAB	W. W. SHAW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
02 AIB	165 W. INDIANAPOLIS AVE. BUILDING
03 AIB	AUTUMN CRESTIN ST
04 B2MC	RED SKELTON PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
05 B8	20 RED SKELTON BOULEVARD
06 CIB	THOMAS W. WALKER BUSINESS BUILDING
07 HSB	CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY BUILDING
08 HSB	324 W. RED SKELTON BOULEVARD
09 HSB	HOME LAND SECURITY & PUBLIC SAFETY BLDG
10 TB	TECHNOLOGY BUILDING/RESIDENCE HALL
11 RBG	1200N. CHESTNUT ST
12 SAC	RAY C. BELESS OLYMPIANUS AVE
13 RBG	1400N. CHESTNUT ST
14 HOB	270 W. HANNSON ST
15 SMC	CENTER FOR HEALTH SCIENCES
16 TDC	120 E. HANNSON ST
17 TDC	TECHNOLOGY CENTER
18 TDC	TECHNOLOGY CENTER
19 PSC	STUDENT ACTIVITIES CENTER
20 PASC	118 E. ST. CLAIR ST
21 BOC	3146 E. DOWNING/RESOURCES CENTER (BOBART)
22 BOC	INDIANA CENTER FOR APPLIED TECH
23 BOC	1500N. CHESTNUT ST
24 BOC	ZELLA YOUNG PEDIATRIC CARE CLINIC
25 BOC	CENTRAL TOWNHOMES
26 BOC	901 N. THIRD ST
27 BOC	UPPER HALL, HEALTH SCIENCES & ENGINEERING
28 BOC	125 N. CHESTNUT ST
29 BOC	LODGE OF ONSLOW FOUNDATION & ALUMNI CENTER
30 BOC	PHYSICAL PLANT
31 BOC	PHYSICAL PLANT
32 BOC	1718N. SECOND ST
33 BOC	ISACK & BECKER STUDENT UNION
34 BOC	1101 N. SECOND ST
35 BOC	WILSON BUILDING/INFORMATION SERVICES
36 BOC	803 (E) 111. SECOND ST
37 BOC	CAMPUS POLICE INFORMATION BUILDING
38 BOC	1201 N. SECOND ST
39 BOC	FRANKS WOOD RESIDENCE HALL
40 BOC	WALKER A DAVIS HALL
41 BOC	1200N. SECOND ST
42 BOC	ROBERT E. GREEN AC TIVITIES CENTER
43 BOC	120 W. HANNSON ST
44 BOC	20 W. INDIANAPOLIS AVE
45 BOC	WILSON CENTER CHAPEL
46 BOC	36 E. HANNSON ST
47 BOC	WALKER RESIDENCE HALL
48 BOC	111 W. SCOTT ST
49 BOC	GEORGE ROGERS CLARK RESIDENCE HALL
50 BOC	11 W. INDIANAPOLIS AVE
51 BOC	JOHAN MORRIS RESIDENCE HALL
52 BOC	1200N. FIRST ST
53 BOC	700 W. RED SKELTON BLVD
54 BOC	HEINRY & FRANCOIS WANDERBURGH RESIDENCE HALL
55 BOC	20 W. ST. CLAIR ST
56 BOC	EXTENDED STUDIES
57 BOC	MAJORIS BUILDING CTR
58 BOC	111 W. SCOTT ST
59 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER COMMONS HOUSE
60 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING A
61 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING B
62 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING C
63 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING D
64 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING E
65 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING F
66 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING G
67 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING H
68 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING I
69 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING J
70 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING K
71 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING L
72 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING M
73 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING N
74 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING O
75 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING P
76 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING Q
77 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING R
78 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING S
79 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING T
80 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING U
81 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING V
82 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING W
83 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING X
84 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING Y
85 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING Z
86 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING AA
87 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING AB
88 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING AC
89 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING AD
90 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING AE
91 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING AF
92 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING AG
93 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING AH
94 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING AI
95 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING AJ
96 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING AK
97 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING AL
98 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING AM
99 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING AN
100 BOC	FRENCH QUARTER BUILDING AO

## **“So glad you asked!” -- Frequently Asked Questions**

- **What network do I log into to access the internet?** Vincennes has a campus-wide WiFi network. Look for VU Guest Wifi. Wifi password is “Vincennes1801”.
- **How do I find my ballot?** You should have received an email from Speechwire that includes your password. Use your email address and password to sign in at [speechwire.com](http://speechwire.com). You should see a link to your ballot. In the alternative, you can find your ballot at [live.speechwire.com](http://live.speechwire.com) and log in. Once logged in, you can opt to receive text notifications for future ballots.
- **What should I do when I find out I will judge a round?** As soon as you learn that you have a round, please immediately access your ballot and click “Click Here to Start the Round”. The following is an example:

### **Electronic ballot**

**Season Opening Tournament J- CX Rd. 1 Sect. A  
Room 101, Sat. Oct. 6 at 9:00 AM**

Debaters  
Aff/Pro: SpeechWire Tes ABCJ **Abbi Adkins and CJ Lowe**  
Neg/Con: SpeechWire Tes EAGA **Earl Willis and Gail Holland**

[Click here to start the round](#)

Please click the link above when the round begins so that the tab room knows that you have started the round.

[Return to home page](#)

Starting your round immediately will notify the Tab Room that you have your ballot and are now in route to the competition room. If you do not start your round immediately, Tab Room may believe that you have not received your ballot and could assign it to another judge in order to keep the Tournament on schedule. Then, please proceed to the competition room.

- **Why am I not judging every round?** We will try to avoid overbooking judges. Likewise, we will do our best to evenly distribute rounds among all of the judges so that no one has too much downtime. If you are not currently scheduled to judge a round, please remain in the Judges’ Lounge in the Red Skelton Performing Arts Center. We need access to you just in case we need to replace a judge who doesn’t show or can’t judge for some other reason.
- **What do I do when I’m not judging?** The Judges’ Lounge is in the Red Skelton Performing Arts Center. Please hang out in this area so we can easily find you if needed.
- **What should I do if my contestants haven’t arrived?** Some students are double-entered in the tournament, so it’s possible they are competing in their other event first and have not made it to your room quite yet. That’s OK. If you have a missing contestant, please move on to the next contestant in your room. If you have heard all of the contestants who are present but a missing contestant still has not shown up in your room, you can text the Tab Room (Marissa Mitchell’s cell: 812.629.8486) and verify if the student is double entered. When texting the Tab Room, please identify (1) your name, (2) the category you are judging, (3) your room, and (4) the missing contestant number. Please be patient with Tab Room as we are coordinating this multi-building Tournament using a cadre of volunteers scattered around campus.
- **How should I handle double-entered students?** Double-entries are permitted in all categories except Discussion. You should start each round by asking if anyone is double-entered. If you have double-entries, please have them speak first and then excuse them from the room after they finish speaking. Double-entered students have been given instructions as to which categories they should go first.

- *For Rounds 1 and 2* --- Double entries in **Extemp** must go to Extemp prep **first**. **Impromptu** double-entries must go to Impromptu **last**. Double-entries in any other events may choose which category to go to first.
- *Round 3 and Final Round* --- Due to Tournament schedule, double entries in **Extemp** should go to Extemp prep **last** and ask to go first in the other category. Except for Extempers who are double-entered in Impromptu, **all other Impromptu** double-entries must still go to Impromptu **last**. Double-entries in **Broadcasting (Final Round only)** should report to Broadcasting **last**. Double-entries in any other events may choose which category to go to first.
- **Do I have to offer time signals for Extemporaneous or Impromptu?** Yes. For Impromptu, please verbally identify time elapsed in 30 second intervals until the speaker starts speaking. Then, once the Impromptu competitor begins speaking, please cease giving verbal cues and then start giving hand signals for the remaining time left. For both Extemp and Impromptu, hand signals for the amount of time left is appropriate. For example: 4 fingers for 4 minutes left, 3 fingers for 3 minutes left, 2 fingers for 2 minutes left, 1 finger for 1 minute left, sideways finger for 30 seconds left, and a closed fist for end of time.
- **My Impromptu or Extemp speaker asked to time themselves. Can they do that?** Yes. If the speaker asks if they can time themselves, you should allow them to do that. You should, however, also keep time for yourself. You do not need to give hand signals if the student keeps track of their own time.
- **My round is now done. What do I do now?** Please first enter your rankings for the round and then save your ballot. Saving the ballot tells the Tab Room that your round is done. Then, please enter your feedback for each contestant. You may enter your feedback while sitting in the competition room or in the Judges' Lounge.
- **How much feedback should I give?** The quantity of feedback that you give is up to you. At a minimum, please give at least give each student a reason for why they placed in the position they did. That said, speech postseason is right around the corner. So, the more that you can offer to help the contestant improve, the better.
- **If I have questions, where can I turn for answers?**
  - *If you are in the Judges' Lounge* -- you have several options. Most of the judges sitting in the Judges' Lounge have judged before and could be good resources. Coaches will likely be in the Judges' Lounge and are happy to answer questions. If you still do not receive an answer, please go to the Tab Room which is also located in the Red Skelton Performing Arts Center.
  - *If you are in another building on campus* – you also have a couple options. A designated building monitor has been assigned to each building. Please consult with them first. Coaches will also be walking around campus and in the various buildings, and they are obviously good resources.

# Speech Event Descriptions

## ***Broadcasting:***

- Speaking Time: Depends on the round
  - Rd 1:** News Program (example: Music leadin/leadout, Commercial, Newscast) 5 min.
  - Rd 2:** News Program (example: Music leadin/leadout, Commercial, Newscast) 5 min.
  - Rd 3:** Breaking News (2 Minute Prep, 2 Minute Performance)
  - Rd 4:** Editorial (30 Minute Prep, 2 Minute Performance)
- Doubling: Students may double in other events.
- Description:
  - Students present their material over a microphone to a judge in another room. Some material is prepared ahead of time, other material is prepared at the tournament, and other material is impromptu. Broadcasting contestants present newscasts, commercials, editorials, and breaking news.
- Judging Criteria:
  - Students should be judged based on their ability to present their information with clarity and effective vocal qualities.

## ***Declamation:***

- Speaking Time: 5-10 minutes in length
- Doubling: Students may double in other events.
- Description:
  - Students present a memorized oration or excerpt of an oration that has been publicly delivered at some time and place by the author, who may or may not be an expert speaker. Public address does not include poetry readings, singing performances, storytelling events, stand up comedy routines, or speeches given in fictional works.
- Judging Criteria:
  - Students should be judged based on their ability to present their interpretation of the speech, using the physical and vocal attributes of effective speakers.
  - The use of props, costuming, and makeup is not permitted.

## ***Discussion:***

- Speaking Time: 60 minutes
- Doubling: Students are not allowed to double. They should be present when the round is scheduled to start.
- Special Note:
  - Judges should pick up discussion questions from Tab Room before heading to the competition room.
- Description:
  - Students participate in a round-table type discussion using a Socratic Seminar format. Students receive artifacts prior to the tournament but do not receive guiding questions until they reach the round.
- Judging Criteria:
  - Students should be judged on the following:
    - Their ability to address the questions while also interacting and collaborating with their fellow discussers.
    - Their ability to connect their responses to their fellow discussers' responses as well as ensuring all members of the group have an opportunity to participate.
    - Speaking over others and aggressively dominating the discussion should be penalized.



### ***Dramatic Interpretation:***

- Speaking Time: 5-10 minutes
- Doubling: Students may double in other events.
- Description:
  - Students memorize dramatic selections from plays, short stories, essays or novels. The speakers' selections will have one or more characters telling a story.
- Judging Criteria:
  - Students should be judged based on their ability to successfully present their interpretation of the character(s) for the audience.
  - Consideration should be given to the clarity of characterization, ability to distinguish between characters and/or emotions through the use of vocal, facial, and physical skills.

### ***Duo Interpretation:***

- Speaking Time: 5-10 minutes
- Doubling: Duo contestants may double in other events.
- Description:
  - Two speakers work together presenting a selection from a play, short story, or novel. Each speaker must do at least one character. Duo students may either memorize selections or read selections from a manuscript.
  - The two speakers may look at each other during the introduction, but are not allowed to touch or look directly at each other during their performance.
- Judging Criteria:
  - Students should be judged based on their ability to successfully present their interpretation of the character(s) for the audience.
  - Consideration should be given to the clarity of characterization, ability to distinguish between characters and/or emotions through the use of vocal, facial, and physical skills.

### ***Humorous Interpretation:***

- Speaking Time: 5-10 minutes
- Doubling: Students may double in other events.
- Description:
  - Students memorize comedic selections from plays, short stories, essays or novels. The speakers' selections will have one or more characters telling a story.
- Judging Criteria:
  - Students should be judged based on their ability to successfully present their interpretation of the character(s) for the audience.
  - Consideration should be given to the clarity of characterization, ability to distinguish between characters and/or emotions through the use of vocal, facial, and physical skills.

### ***Impromptu:***

- Speaking Time: 0-7 minutes
- Doubling: Impromptu students may double in other events.
- Special Note:
  - Judges assigned to impromptu will need to pick up impromptu topics from Tab Room.

- Students should wait in the hall until it is their turn to speak.
- The judge should serve as the timer for the round
- Speaker may hold no notes while speaking. Speaker may, however, hold the prompt while speaking.
- **Timing:**
  - *While student preps: verbally* identify time elapsed in 30 second intervals so that Speaker knows how much time has elapsed.
  - *When student speaks:* Cease giving verbal cues. Start giving hand signals for the remaining time. For example: 4 fingers for 4 minutes left, 3 fingers for 3 minutes left, 2 fingers for 2 minutes left, 1 finger for 1 minute left, sideways finger for 30 seconds left, and a closed fist for end of time.
  - *Students may elect to time themselves.* Judges should still keep time for themselves. No need to give hand signals.
- **Description:**
  - Judges should call each student in one at a time to deliver their speech.
  - Once given their topic, the student has a total of 7 minutes to prepare and then present their speech on the topic presented.
  - Students may take notes while they are preparing but are **NOT** allowed to use any notes when presenting.
- **Judging Criteria:**
  - Students should be judged based on their ability to organize their thoughts and present a structured speech connected to the topic presented to them.
  - Consideration should be given to the overall presentation: content, delivery, and presence.

### ***Informative Speaking:***

- **Speaking Time:** 5-10 minutes
- **Doubling:** Students may double in other events
- **Description:**
  - Students write a speech informing the audience about a topic they find interesting.
  - Students may use a non-electronic visual aid, but are not required to.
  - The speech is memorized. No notes may be used.
- **Judging Criteria:**
  - Students should be judged based on their ability to present their information in a clear and effective manner. If visual aids are used, they should serve to illustrate the speaker's ideas and information without being a distraction.
  - Consideration should be given to the overall presentation: content, delivery, and presence.

### ***International Extemp:***

- **Speaking Time:** ~7 minutes
- **Doubling:** Students may double in other events.
- **Description:**
  - Students spend 30 minutes researching and writing their response to a current event question about an international topic.
  - This is a memorized category. Speaker may hold no notes while speaking.
- **Timing:**
  - *Hand signals.* Please give hand signals starting at 4 minutes left and down. For example: 4 fingers for 4 minutes left, 3 fingers for 3 minutes left, 2 fingers for 2 minutes left, 1 finger for 1 minute left, sideways finger for 30 seconds left, and a closed fist for end of time.

- *Students may elect to time themselves.* Judges should still keep time for themselves. No need to give hand signals.
- **Judging Criteria:**
  - Students should be judged based on their ability to effectively answer the question they have chosen with clearly cited sources, solid structure to their answer, and solid analysis of the information they present.

### ***Original Oratory:***

- **Speaking Time:** 5-10 minutes
- **Doubling:** Students may double in other events.
- **Description:**
  - Students write a persuasive speech focusing on individual concerns or an issue they find interesting or important.
  - Their speech must be presented from memory without the use of any notes.
- **Judging Criteria:**
  - Students should be judged based on their ability to effectively convey their chosen topic to the audience. While a possible solution can be given, it is not required.
  - Consideration should be given to the overall presentation: content, delivery, and presence.

### ***Original Performance:***

- **Speaking Time:** 5-10 minutes
- **Doubling:** Students may double in other events.
- **Description:**
  - Students write and perform their own material. Students may write poems, brief stories, plays, or essays. The performance may be read or memorized. Students may work as a duo team or as an individual speaker.
- **Judging Criteria:**
  - Students should be judged based on their ability to successfully present their interpretation of the character(s) for the audience.
  - Consideration should be given to the clarity of characterization, ability to distinguish between characters and/or emotions through the use of vocal, facial, and physical skills.

### ***Poetry:***

- **Speaking Time:** 5-10 minutes
- **Doubling:** Students may double in other events.
- **Description:**
  - Students prepare a poetry program focusing on a single theme. Program must be 5-10 minutes long and include 2 or more poems. Poems must be written by someone other than the reader and be published. The poetry is read from a script.
- **Judging Criteria:**
  - Students should be judged based on their ability to effectively present their interpretation of the poetry selections within the context of the specified theme.



## ***Programmed Oral Interp (P.O.I.):***

- Speaking Time: 5-10 minutes
- Doubling: Students may double in other events
- Description:
  - Students prepare a scripted program integrating at least 2 different genres (fiction, non-fiction, drama) that focuses on a central theme or message. The program is read from a script.
- Judging Criteria:
  - Students should be judged based on their ability to effectively present their interpretation of the chosen selections within the context of the specified theme.

## ***Prose:***

- Speaking Time: 5-10 minutes
- Doubling: Students may double in other events.
- Description:
  - Students present a selected portion from a short story, essay, or narrative, focusing on interpreting the selection's meaning and storyline. The story is read from a script.
- Judging Criteria:
  - Students should be judged based on their ability to effectively present their interpretation of the chosen selection.

## ***U.S. Extemp:***

- Speaking Time: ~7 minutes
- Doubling: Students may double in other events.
- Description:
  - Students have spent 30 minutes researching and writing their response to a current event question about an domestic topic regarding US policy and politics.
  - This is a memorized category. Speaker may hold no notes while speaking.
- Timing:
  - *Hand signals.* Please give hand signals starting at 4 minutes left and down. For example: 4 fingers for 4 minutes left, 3 fingers for 3 minutes left, 2 fingers for 2 minutes left, 1 finger for 1 minute left, sideways finger for 30 seconds left, and a closed fist for end of time.
  - *Students may elects to time themselves.* Judges should still keep time for themselves. No need to give hand signals.
- Judging Criteria:
  - Students should be judged based on their ability to effectively answer the question they have chosen with clearly cited sources, solid structure to their answer, and solid analysis of the information they present.