

**Southeast Missouri State University's
Cape Rock Classic
Spring 2026 Speech and Debate Tournament**

Dear Forensics Community,

It is our pleasure to invite you to the campus of Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO) in Cape Girardeau, Missouri to compete in a riveting speech and debate competition on February 6th and 7th 2026.

This competition will offer International Public Debate Association (IPDA) as well as Lincoln Douglas (LD) debate on Friday, with debate rounds concluding on Saturday alongside the 11 standard AFA Individual Events (IEs). In addition to competition, Cape Girardeau also has numerous restaurants, conveniently located hotels, and a historic downtown area to enjoy during your stay.

We hope that you can join us for this competition, and if you have any questions regarding the tournament or accommodations, please feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,

The Redhawk Speech and Debate Team

Noah Smentkowski

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Southeast Missouri State University

Location:

The tournament will be held on SEMO's Campus in the Grauel Building, 480 N Pacific Street, Cape Girardeau, Mo 63701. Parking is available behind the hall, as well as on the corner of North Henderson Avenue and Normal Avenue. A parking pass will be provided to schools at registration, and a map will be available on our Forensics Tournaments page.

There is a lobby inside the Grauel that will serve as the main meeting place beside the theatre. Registration will take place in the lobby, and teams are free to set up spaces to rest and convene throughout the hall.

Lodging in Cape Girardeau:

Courtyard by Marriott Cape Girardeau Downtown
400 Broadway St, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 240-9420

Drury Plaza Hotel Cape Girardeau Conference Center
3351 Percy Dr, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 334-7151

Hampton Inn Cape Girardeau I-55 East
207 S Mt Auburn Rd, Cape Girardeau, MO 63703
(573) 334-4499

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Cape Girardeau
3253 William St, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 334-4491

Pear Tree Inn Cape Girardeau

3248 William St, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 334-3000

Dining in Cape Girardeau:

- Sit Down
 - Burrito Ville
 - Pagliai's Pizza
 - Broussard's Cajun Cuisine
 - Port Cape
 - Mary Jane's
 - Chan's
 - Muy Bueno
- Fast Food
 - Taco Bell
 - McDonalds
 - Wendy's
 - Culver's
 - Smoothie King
 - Chick-Fil-A
 - Steak 'n Shake
 - Rally's
 - Sonics
 - Popeyes
 - KFC

Entry and Registration Information:

Please register all judges and competitors for the tournament on **Forensics Tournaments by 5:00pm on Monday, February 2nd**.

Registration will be held in Grauel Hall's lobby by the Rose Theatre. Checks or cash are required at the time of registration, made payable to Southeast Missouri State University.

Event Patterns and Information:

Pattern A: Extemp, Persuasion, DI, Poetry, Informative, Prose

Pattern B: Impromptu, POI, ADS, Communication Analysis, Duo

Pattern C: IPDA and LD

Competitors may enter up to 3 events per pattern.

AFA guidelines will be followed for each event. Impromptu quotations will range from film and songs to philosophy and proverbs. Extemporaneous topics will emphasize economics decisions, domestic policies, and international policies. Use of the internet is allowed for extemp preparation.

Depending on number of entries in each flight of events, we hope to offer novice and varsity divisions for competition.

Competition Fees:

LD: \$30 each

IPDA: \$30 each

IE: \$10 each

Judging Fees:

Uncovered LD entries: \$50 each

Uncovered IPDA entries: \$50 each

Uncovered IE entries: \$15 each

Nuisance Fees:

Dropped debate entry after deadline: \$30 each

Dropped IE entry after deadline: \$15 each

Dropped Judge at Registration: \$50 each

Notice Regarding Judging:

While we will attempt to provide as many judges as possible from the institution and the community, we will be dependent on the volunteering and judging of competing schools. We would rather have judges than money, so we kindly ask you to cover as many slots as possible for competition. We thank you for your understanding and making events like this possible.

Judging will be performed online via electronic ballots hosted on Forensics Tournament's webpage. Please submit ballots at the end of round once a decision has been made; notes can be added to ballots afterwards. It is a judge's responsibility to be at and begin rounds on time, keep accurate time for events, and keep rounds operating on schedule. If debaters come in 10 minutes after the start of their round, they may be marked as having forfeit the round and a 0 will be received for speaker points.

Awards and Sweepstake Formula:

Individual awards will be granted to all who enter finals for their respective events, with team events (such as duo) providing a trophy to both competitors.

Sweepstakes trophies will be provided as such:

1st – 3rd Overall Sweeps

1st – 3rd I.E. Sweeps

1st – 3rd Debate Sweeps

Anticipated Schedule*

Friday, March 1		
8:00 – 9:00 am	Registration	Grael Building lobby
9:00 – 10:30am	IPDA / LD Round 1	Grael Building
10:30 – 12:00pm	IPDA / LD Round 2	Grael Building
12:00 – 1:00pm	Lunch	
1:00pm – 2:30pm	IPDA / LD Round 3	Grael Building
2:30 – 4:00pm	IPDA / LD Round 4	Grael Building
4:00 – 5:30pm	IPDA / LD Elim 1	Grael Building
Saturday, March 2		
7:00 – 8:00am	IE only Registration	Grael Building lobby
7:45am	Extemp Draw	Grael Building lobby
8:00 – 9:15am	Round 1 Pattern A	Grael Building
9:30 – 10:45am	Round 1 Pattern B	Grael Building
11:00 – 12:15pm	Round 2 Pattern B	Grael Building
12:15 – 1:30pm	Lunch	
12:30 – 2:00pm	IPDA / LD Elim 2	Grael Building
1:15pm	Extemp Draw	Grael Building lobby
1:30 – 2:45pm	Round 2 Pattern A	Grael Building
3:00 – 4:15pm	Finals Pattern B	Grael Building
4:15pm	Extemp Draw Finals	Grael Building lobby
4:30 – 5:45pm	Finals Pattern A	Grael Building
6:00 – 7:30pm	IPDA / LD Elim 3	Grael Building
7:45pm (approximately)	Awards Ceremony	Rose Theatre in the Grael Building

*If any changes occur to this schedule, updates will be shared with all teams via email and through Forensics Tournaments webpage.