

# SAMPLE TMC CRITERIA B

## Criteria B. Need

### **4. Enrollment and Completer Projections:**

In most cases Speech 104, Speech 106, and Speech 130 have been offered consistently twice a year (once in the Fall semester, and once in the Spring semester). Speech 121 is offered twice a semester but Speech 122 has not been offered recently. In courses recently offered there has been a 30+ enrollment, with a retention rate of over 75% average. (see attached: LACCD Degrees and Certificates)

Projected number of completers:

This projection was based upon average total completion rates in Speech 106 - Forensics. The Speech 106 - Forensics students are the students who are consistently taking the class for transfer into a four-year Communication Curriculum and who take Speech 106 - Forensics in order to be offered scholarship opportunities for their degree aspirations. Currently, the enrollment in Speech 106 - Forensics equals 20-40 students per year. (see attached) These are promising students for the program projections. It is expected that the Associate of Arts in Communication Studies for Transfer degree program will build as the Speech classes for students, who are second language speakers, continue to challenge students in the public speaking arena. In the past, these preliminary classes for foreign speakers sought to enhance their grammar and conversation rather than their public speaking ability. As the department moves these students toward public speaking, it is anticipated that interest in an Associate of Arts in Communication Studies for Transfer degree will grow even within this group of multiple language-speaking students.

### **5. Place of the Associate of Arts in Communication Studies for Transfer Degree Program in Curriculum/Similar Programs at Los Angeles City College**

No other programs are currently offered that meet the needs or requirements of the Associate of Arts in Communication Studies for Transfer degree. There are currently two programs that are related to Communication Studies. These are Journalism and Cinema/TV. For many years, Forensics students have requested such a degree as an opportunity to further their study of Communication and to prepare for transfer to universities as Communication majors. Oral Interpretation (Speech 130), as currently offered, is similar to Theatre 210 – Introduction to Oral Interpretation of Dramatic Literature. Nursing and counseling students utilize Interpersonal Communication Studies (Speech 121) to improve their communication skills as they apply to those fields. Students in the Law and Administration of Justice program often enroll in Argumentation (Speech 104) to learn basic argument and logic.

No enrollment changes will be needed to accommodate this new degree.

Creating this degree will allow students to earn a degree and transfer without requiring them to take additional courses, thus creating efficiency for the college by increasing transfer numbers without increasing costs.

## **6. Similar Associate of Arts in Communication Studies for Transfer Degree Programs at Other Colleges in the Service Area**

Although Valley College has a similar program, the Valley program and the Los Angeles City College have consistently run parallel to one another in terms of student choices and forensics competitive programs. While it would seem that the two colleges would have similar demographics and compete for students, this has not been the case. The comprehensive Clinic program for the non-native speaking population at Los Angeles City College has drawn local interest among the non-native speakers in the community. The focus on policy debate at Los Angeles City College versus Parliamentary debate at Valley has distinguished the two Forensics programs. As stated before, Los Angeles City College hosts 144 Communications awards, but still Valley ranks second in the number of awards with 64 awards in Communications. Students travel between the two schools but most prefer one school over the other, thus eliminating the competitive spirit between the two schools. The District can clearly support an Associate of Arts in Communication Studies for Transfer degree program at both schools because both have a unique appeal to the populations around them and this appeal appears to be very different.