

Course Descriptions

Debate/Critical Thinking(Ages 9-17)

Team Debate

Ensure an academic edge! Debate enhances reading comprehension, increases GPA, and looks excellent on college applications! **Team Debate**, the first course in our ongoing Debate/Critical Thinking Club Series, sets the foundation for strong debate skills. While students perform debate in teams, they:

- Discover the purpose, value, and format of debate.
- Practice evaluating evidence.
- Improve active listening.
- Exercise critical thinking.
- Develop more organized reasoning skills.
- Sharpen persuasive skills.

Public Forum Debate

Ensure an academic edge! Debate enhances reading comprehension, increases GPA, and looks excellent on college applications. **Public Forum**, the second course in our ongoing Debate/Critical Thinking Club Series, focuses on issues of national performance. Throughout the class, students:

- Strengthen critical thinking skills.
- Develop more organized reasoning skills.
- Build their power to persuade.
- Learn to research more effectively.
- Improve active listening.
- Perform impromptu debates.

Students experience teambuilding as they discover the thrill of debate. Professional coaches offer personal guidance and strengthen students' confidence, communication, and leadership abilities!

Parliamentary Debate

Ensure an academic edge! Debate enhances reading comprehension, increases GPA, and looks excellent on college applications. **Parliamentary Debate**, the third course in our ongoing Debate/Critical Thinking Club Series, features the world's most popular form of debate. Focusing on extemporaneous debate, which allows only a limited preparation time, the class improves students' ability to:

- Analyze debatable issues.
- Respond quickly.
- Organize ideas efficiently.
- Use effective verbal and nonverbal communication.
- Listen actively.
- Take thorough notes.

Student Congress Debate

Ensure an academic edge! Debate enhances reading comprehension, increases GPA, and looks excellent on college applications. **Student Congress**, the final course in our ongoing Debate/Critical Thinking Club Series, is a mock legislative session. Students are assigned to "houses" where they debate pre-assigned "bills" or "resolutions." Students improve their ability to:

- Analyze debatable issues.
- Research topics.
- Organize ideas.
- Make thoughtful, engaging, and clear presentations.
- Listen actively.
- Take thorough notes.