

# Debate



## Debate 1: Intro to Public Speaking

**Full Year - No Prerequisites**

Students learn and try 8 different types of public speaking and debate as they improve their skills in reading, research, organization, and communication. Public speaking formats include different areas of focus: current events, political topics, creative writing, improvisational speaking, and more. Students become more comfortable and skilled in speaking with and in front of others for a variety of purposes, including real-world applications/public speaking formats, such as job interviewing and written and oral presentation skills.

## Honors Debate 1: Intro to Speech and Debate

**Full Year - Instructor Approval Required**

Students learn and try 12 different types of debate and public speaking as they improve their skills in reading, research, organization, and communication. Students learn and practice improvisational speaking, persuasive speaking, argumentative debate, creative writing, presentations, acting, and more. The course includes political, philosophical, and global problem topics, as well as conversational and creative styles of speaking. For Honors Debate 1, there is a 4 tournament requirement for the year: students choose from a wide variety of after-school tournaments, Saturday tournaments, and travel tournaments to find at least four they can attend, any time during the year.

## Debate 2 (Honors Available)

**Full Year - Debate 1 or Instructor Approval**

Debate 2 builds on the fundamentals taught in Introduction to Speech and Debate. The course focuses on an in-depth analysis of issues related to economics, government policy, international relations, the Congress, the President of the United States, and contemporary issues facing the U.S. and the world. Through lectures, seminars, and readings, students will be engaged in the politics and policies of the world as they relate to the debate topics presented by the National Speech and Debate Association.

## Honors Debate 3

**Full Year - Honors Debate 2 or Instructor Approval**

Debate 3 focuses on a critical analysis of arguments and honing rhetorical ability. Students will engage arguments written by non-governmental organizations, governments and, individual policy makers to critically review the premises, logic, and impacts of proposals. Students will also write arguments using briefs and other academic sources for use in national speech and debate competitions. Students will continue to review and analyze a host of written and oral communication to improve argument formulation in both written and oral expression.

## Honors Seminar Debate 4

**Full Year - Honors Debate 3**

Debate 4 has three fundamental components: Critical analysis of issues and arguments, understanding past, present, and future implications of issues and arguments, and college level written and oral communication ability. Building upon the skill of critical analysis of arguments studied in Debate 3, debate 4 will expose students to the implication of policies in nuanced and detailed ways. The course explores case studies of policies written, enacted, and their long-term impacts. Students will analyze policies through the lens of short and long-term impact and apply this skill to National Speech and Debate Association topics. Last, Debate 4 will focus on critical analysis of rhetorical analysis in both written and video texts to continue bolstering students' written and oral communication.