

Academic Year 2024-2025

High School – After School Workshops:

- Architecture, Engineering & Math
- Debate Workshops
- Model Congress
- Advanced Competitive Debate: Practice and preparation
- Philosophy
- Film Making

1/ Architecture, Engineering & Math (T1-T4 Mondays 3-4PM)

This course is an advanced course for designers, tinkerers, and thinker-out-of-the-box creators. The course introduces students to a variety of overlapping ideas in architecture, engineering, and math. Each concept is presented along the hands-on project. The course fosters the ability to recognize complex mathematical patterns and creatively solve challenging real-world problems.

The teachers are architects, professors, designers: all are experienced educators. Curriculum overview: The course will explore some of the concepts of forces and tensile structures (think structures held together by the force of tension, such as advanced tents and other complex structures in equilibrium). Advanced concepts in design: develop algorithms for geometric transformation. Creating static versus changing volumes, could we imagine architecture as a machine? Could we imagine architecture that moves or evolves? How?

2/ Model Congress (TBA - 2nd Semester)

This training is offered to high school students T1-T4 - on Tuesdays
In these workshops the students learn about the electoral process, lobby for issues they are passionate about, draft and deliver bills, amend legislation, debate about international policy and learn how to effectively represent a constituent body of their choosing. The materials from The Constitutional Rights Foundation, ICivics (founded by Justice Sandra Day O'Connor) and the National Model U.S. Congress are used in classes.



These resources have been proven to improve students' civic knowledge, presentation and core literacy skills.

New research has also shown that the use of the aforementioned materials has also led to increased participation in the democratic process. The objective in this course is to educate the next generation, nurture and inculcate a passion for civics and history and encourage young people to advocate for themselves.

The instructor of this class is Ms. Amanda Sawyer, Founder, Director, Dedimus Potestatem. Her program was developed in conjunction with The University of Cambridge.

4/ Debate Workshops (Mondays 3-4PM)

The objective of this program is to prepare students for the myriad situations that require formal and informal presentations. It is offered on Mondays

Students will learn to craft and present arguments and inform, persuade and motivate an audience in a variety of ways. The grading rubric was adapted with the permission of Neil Mercer, the Director of research and Head of Faculty at The University of Cambridge.

This course includes:

- The Impromptu Speech
- The Informative Speech
- The Persuasive Speech
- Parliamentary Debate

This program is focused on social skills, public speaking and presentation, and was developed in conjunction with The University of Cambridge.

5/ Advanced Competitive Debate: Practice & Preparation (Wednesdays)

This class is for more seasoned competitive debaters that wish to focus solely on preparing and practicing for the upcoming debate tournaments.

It will focus on more advanced debate techniques, such as persuasive openings, sustainable counter plans, solvency, calls to action, fulfilling the burden of proof and how to handle impromptu challenging situations in a competitive debate environment.

This class is for debaters that wish to grow as competitive speakers –

6/ Philosophy (TBA - 2nd Semester)

The focus of the Philosophy class is to examine and understand the ideas behind the most popular philosophies embraced throughout the world. To do this, students examine ethical situations through the lens of these philosophies and engage in a Socratic style debate.



Students are presented with an ethical question and they must identify stakeholders and players within the dilemma, discuss the key moral issues and present opposing viewpoints. The course is taught by Mr. Andy Snyder, Philosophy professor from CUNY associated with Dedimus Potestatem.

7/ Film Making (TBA - 2nd Semester)

Young people all over the world have begun using social media platforms to amplify minority voices, educate people about social justice issues and share science, poetry, art, movement, culture and more. In this class students will learn to capture brief videos that share important and inspiring messages with the world, analyze movements from other young activists that have impacted their communities and use these platforms to advocate for a better world.

Dr. Lidana Jalilvand | Director of Special Programs
ljililvand@unis.org | +1 212-584-3083 Ext: 3083