



Cogito Debate

Building confident thinkers & speakers since 2016!



2026 FALL SEMESTER CATALOG



**ENROLL
NOW**

Grades 3rd - 12th
August 31st to December 19th

Fall Schedule

FROM AUGUST 31ST TO DECEMBER 19TH

NO CLASS NOVEMBER 23RD - 28TH (THANKSGIVING WEEK)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1A EL Intro to Jr. Speakers and Debaters <i>4:00 - 5:30 PM</i>	2A EL Intermediate Jr. Speakers and Debaters <i>4:00 - 5:30 PM</i>	1B EL Intro to Jr. Speakers and Debaters <i>4:00 - 5:30 PM</i>	2B EL Intermediate Jr. Speakers and Debaters <i>4:00 - 5:30 PM</i>	3 MS Intro to Public Speaking <i>4:00 - 6:00 PM</i>	1C EL Intro to Jr. Speakers and Debaters <i>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM</i>
7A MS/HS Mock Trial <i>4:00 - 6:00 PM</i>	4A MS Intro Parliamentary Debate <i>4:00 - 6:00 PM</i>	5A MS Intermediate Parliamentary Debate <i>4:00 - 6:00 PM</i>	5B MS Intermediate Parliamentary Debate <i>4:00 - 6:00 PM</i>	4B MS Intro Parliamentary Debate <i>4:00 - 6:00 PM</i>	6B MS Debate Club <i>9:00 AM - 12:00 PM</i>
9A HS Intro to Parliamentary Debate <i>4:00 - 6:00 PM</i>	10 HS Intermediate Parliamentary Debate <i>4:00 - 6:00 PM</i>	6A MS Debate Club <i>4:00 - 6:00 PM</i>	11 HS Intro to Public Forum <i>4:00 - 6:00 PM</i>	8 HS Intro to Public Speaking <i>4:00 - 6:00 PM</i>	7B MS/HS Mock Trial <i>10:00 AM - 12:00 PM</i>
					9B HS Intro to Parliamentary Debate <i>1:00 - 3:00 PM</i>
					12 HS Debate Club <i>1:00 - 4:00 PM</i>

PRICES

Elementary classes

(1.5 HOURS/WEEK)

\$948.75

Middle School classes

(2 HOURS/WEEK)

\$1,287

MS/HS Mock Trial

(2 HOURS/WEEK)

\$1,287

High School classes

(2 HOURS/WEEK)

\$1,487

MS Debate Club 1

(WEDNESDAY 2 HOURS/WEEK)

\$1,387

MS Debate Club 2

(SATURDAY 3 HOURS/WEEK)

\$1,732.50

HS Debate Club

(3 HOURS/WEEK)

\$1,732.50

ONLINE CLASSES

Enroll at any time for the whole year!

Our online classes use a **hybrid** format, combining **asynchronous lessons** on the Canvas platform with synchronous, live, **twice-monthly practice sessions** (1.5 to 2 hours) with your coach and peers.

Materials include lectures, videos, discussion boards, posts, written assignments, quizzes, and recorded speeches and debates.

Course details:

- Length: 15 weeks, including one week of parent conferences and one week of break
- Platform: Canvas
- Please note: this course follows a set schedule, students are required to follow the course's pace

For advanced and Tournament-Bound classes, schedule an interview with Cogito's Director of Debate, Coach Kristina Rietveld, at kristinar@cogitodebate.com.

Classes offered:

MS Intro to Public Speaking

HS Intro to Public Speaking

MS Intro to Parliamentary Debate

HS Intro to Parliamentary Debate

MS Intro to Lincoln Douglas

HS Intro to Lincoln Douglas

MS Intro to Public Forum

HS Intro to Public Forum

MS/HS Intro to Mock Trial

MS/HS Intro to Model United Nations

PRICE \$1,170 per class

Elementary Introduction to Jr. Speakers & Debaters Ages 8–11

Offered on: Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays weekly

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of speech and debate through engaging, age-appropriate activities and real-world topics.

Students develop essential communication skills, including public speaking, speech organization, audience awareness, research, and argumentation.

Throughout the course, they build confidence by delivering a variety of speeches, presentations, and participating in Spontaneous Argumentation debates.



Elementary Intermediate Jr. Speakers & Debaters Ages 8–11

Offered on: Tuesdays, Thursdays weekly

Designed for students who have completed Elementary Introduction to Jr. Speakers & Debaters or have prior experience, this intermediate-level course builds on core public speaking and debate skills through immersive practice and personalized feedback.

Students strengthen their speech delivery, critical thinking, argumentation, and persuasive communication while developing greater confidence and poise.

Through speeches, debates, and interactive activities, students continue refining the skills needed to become effective and impactful communicators.



Middle School

Introduction to Public Speaking

Ages 11–14

Offered on: Fridays weekly, Online

Designed for Middle School students, this course provides a **supportive environment** to develop confidence and essential public speaking skills.

Students learn the fundamentals of effective communication, including speech organization, voice projection, body language, audience engagement, and presentation techniques.

Through **interactive activities, impromptu speaking, prepared speeches, and constructive feedback**, students strengthen their ability to express ideas clearly and confidently in a variety of speaking situations.



Middle School Introduction to Parliamentary Debate Ages 11–14

Offered on: Tuesdays, Fridays weekly, Online

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of Parliamentary Debate, an **impromptu debate** format that develops critical thinking, argumentation, and public speaking skills.

Students learn how to **analyze a resolution, construct persuasive arguments, and effectively support** either side of a debate with limited preparation time.

Through guided instruction and practice debates, students build confidence, adaptability, and the ability to think and communicate clearly under pressure.



Middle School Intermediate Parliamentary Debate Ages 11–14

Offered on: Wednesdays, Thursdays weekly

Designed for students who have completed Introduction to Parliamentary Debate or have prior experience, this course builds on foundational debate skills through more challenging topics and advanced argumentation.

Students refine their case construction, rebuttal, and refutation techniques while strengthening critical thinking, teamwork, and impromptu speaking abilities.

Through practice rounds and personalized feedback, students develop the skills and confidence needed to prepare for competitive debate and participation in **Debate Club**.



Middle School Debate Club

Ages 11–14

Offered on: Wednesdays, Saturdays weekly

The Middle School Debate Club is designed for students who have successfully completed Intermediate Parliamentary Debate and are ready to compete as part of Cogito's debate team.

Students collaborate in preparing for tournaments through advanced practice rounds, strategic case development, and individualized coaching.

The required prerequisite for this course is completion of the Summer Bridge Bootcamp. In addition to developing competitive debate skills, students are encouraged to take on leadership roles by demonstrating **commitment, collaboration, and dedication to the success of the team.**

Middle School Debate Club is offered in two options: 2 hours or 3 hours per week. 3-hour option provides additional debate practice.



Middle School Lincoln–Douglas Ages 11–14

Offered on: Online only

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of Lincoln-Douglas Debate, a **one-on-one debate format** that explores philosophical, ethical, and sociopolitical topics.

Students develop essential skills in research, critical thinking, argumentation, and refutation while learning the structure and strategy of competitive Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

Through guided practice and debate rounds, students gain confidence in **constructing, analyzing, and delivering persuasive arguments.**



Middle School Introduction to Public Forum Ages 11–14

Offered on: Online only

This course introduces students to Public Forum Debate, a **team-based debate format** focused on current events and real-world issues.

Students learn how to **research, analyze evidence, and construct clear, persuasive arguments** while developing teamwork, critical thinking, and public speaking skills.

Through guided instruction and practice debates, students build confidence in presenting and defending their ideas, responding to opposing viewpoints, and **using evidence effectively**.

By the end of the course, students will understand the structure of Public Forum Debate and be prepared to compete in a collaborative and fast-paced debate environment.



Middle School/High School Mock Trial Ages 11–17

Offered on: Wednesdays, Thursdays weekly, Online

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of Mock Trial and the legal process in a **fun and engaging environment**.

Students explore key concepts in law, evidence, and courtroom procedure while developing critical thinking, public speaking, and persuasive argumentation skills.

Through **hands-on activities, role-playing, and simulated trial experiences**, students learn how to build cases, present arguments, and think like attorneys in a collaborative courtroom setting.



High School

Introduction to Public Speaking

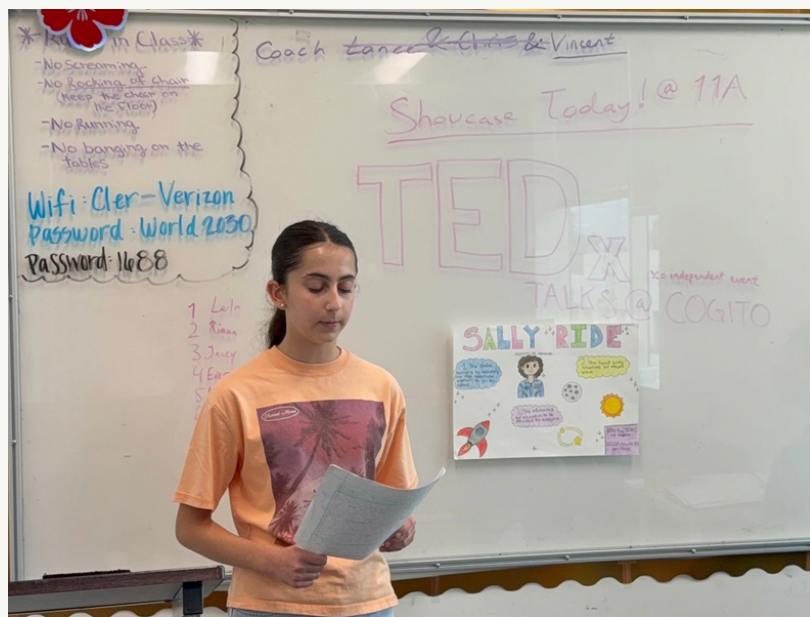
Ages 14–17

Offered on: Fridays weekly, Online

Designed for High School students, this course provides a **supportive environment** to develop confidence and essential public speaking skills.

Students learn the fundamentals of effective communication, including speech organization, voice projection, body language, audience engagement, and presentation techniques.

Through **interactive activities, impromptu speaking, prepared speeches, and constructive feedback**, students strengthen their ability to express ideas clearly and confidently in a variety of speaking situations.



High School Introduction to Parliamentary Debate Ages 14–17

Offered on: Mondays, Saturdays weekly, Online

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of Parliamentary Debate, an **impromptu debate** format that develops critical thinking, argumentation, and public speaking skills.

Students learn to **analyze a resolution, construct persuasive arguments, and effectively defend either side** of a topic with limited preparation time.

Through guided instruction and practice debates, students build confidence in organizing ideas quickly, responding strategically, and communicating clearly under pressure.



High School Intermediate Parliamentary Debate Ages 14–17

Offered on: Tuesdays weekly

Designed for students who have completed Introduction to Parliamentary Debate or have prior experience, this course builds on foundational skills through more **complex topics and advanced argumentation practice**.

Students strengthen case construction, rebuttal, refutation, and strategic thinking while engaging in structured practice rounds and guided feedback.

As a direct continuation of the introductory course, this class prepares students for **competitive debate** and advancement into **Debate Club**.



High School Introduction to Public Forum Ages 11–17

Offered on: Thursdays weekly, Online

This course introduces students to Public Forum Debate, a **team-based debate format** focused on current events and real-world issues.

Students learn how to **research, analyze evidence, and construct clear, persuasive arguments** while developing teamwork, critical thinking, and public speaking skills.

Through guided instruction and practice debates, students build confidence in presenting and defending their ideas, responding to opposing viewpoints, and **using evidence effectively**.

By the end of the course, students will understand the structure of Public Forum Debate and be prepared to compete in a collaborative and fast-paced debate environment.



High School Debate Club

Ages 14–17

Offered on: Saturdays weekly

The High School Debate Club is designed for students who have successfully completed Intermediate Parliamentary Debate and are ready to join Cogito's competitive debate team.

Students work collaboratively to prepare for tournaments through **advanced practice rounds, case development, and strategic coaching**. The required prerequisite for this course is completion of the Summer Bridge Bootcamp.

Club members also have the opportunity to take on leadership roles within the team by demonstrating commitment, responsibility, and dedication to supporting the success of their peers and the program as a whole.



High School Lincoln–Douglas Ages 14–17

Offered on: Online only

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of Lincoln-Douglas Debate, a **one-on-one debate format** that explores philosophical, ethical, and sociopolitical topics.

Students develop essential skills in research, critical thinking, argumentation, and refutation while learning the structure and strategy of competitive Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

Through guided practice and debate rounds, students gain confidence in constructing, analyzing, and delivering persuasive arguments.





Contact Us

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Follow us on Instagram, TikTok, YouTube:

@COGITODEBATE

We post interviews with students & coaches, videos and photos from classes, information about programs, updates, tournaments, trends, and Q&A's.

**Leave us a review on Yelp:
<https://www.yelp.com/biz/cogito-debate-irvine>**

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