



Introduction to Argumentation and Debate will provide a thorough, practical grounding in critical thinking, research, and public speaking that will be invaluable to students, whether or not they decide to compete in forensic competition. Topics will include logical models, logical fallacies, research techniques, structure of formal debate, understanding both sides of an issue, building a case, affirmative and negative strategies, audience assessment, and even gracious competition.

The course will run for 4 weeks (2 hour sessions each), plus a Round Robin Debate Tournament on Saturday, August 8, complete with judges and awards (4 rounds). The classes will include lectures, activities, and small group discussions and impromptu speeches led by experienced current and/or former competitors.



Instructor: Stephen Mayer

Stephen Mayer has extensive experience teaching in forensics programs, ranging from Santa Clara University's Summer Debate Workshop to Live Oak Academy's Intermediate and Introductory Debate classes. He qualified for the NCFCA National Tournament four consecutive times and won five national awards. He has co-authored three debate sourcebooks and is currently writing a fourth. Now a junior at UCLA, Stephen is the captain of UCLA's prestigious Mock Trial Team.

Place: Live Oak Academy, located at Calvary Chapel, 1175 Hillsdale Ave, San Jose, CA 95118

Who: Ages 12 and up. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend the class at no extra charge.

Dates & Times: Thursdays 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM; Saturdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon
JULY 16, 18, 23, 25, 30, AUGUST 1, 6
Round Robin on August 8, 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Price: \$200.00 (includes cost of Round Robin on Aug. 8, excluding meals), plus a one-time \$30 registration fee for non-Live Oak students, which will apply for all summer classes at Live Oak.

Enrollment: Use enrollment form below.

