

Speech & Debate

Instructor: Gelaina Allen

Contact information: Gelaina@comcast.net 601-278-6594 (call or text)

Location: First Baptist Fannin

Course Description:

This may be the most dangerous class your student will ever take! Public speaking, rhetoric, and debate are POWERFUL tools! When a teenager learns to carry themselves and speak well... watch out! They are dangerous! People begin to think of them as leaders and they will change the world!

This class is designed to help your student overcome their fear of speaking and become confident orators! Life is filled with public speaking opportunities both big and small. Whether it is speaking up at a neighborhood homeowner's association meeting, sharing about God's goodness in Sunday School, or pitching an idea at a work board meeting, the opportunities abound. Being an effective, confident communicator is a valuable skill to have.

Studies show that children who learn effective public speaking skills rise to the top 5% and are selected for advancement by teachers, employers, and communities. They're better equipped to live with confidence and grace, to reach their goals, and to have eternal impact.

Through speech and debate, students learn logic, analytical reasoning, critical thinking, teamwork, interpersonal skills, and have a broadened life experience. Home school speech and debate is about being effective, godly communicators capable of bringing about change in the world around us.

This class is redesigned each year so that a student may take multiple years of speech & debate without duplication of material.

Grade Level: Advanced Middle School/High School

(This class is equal to ½ a Carnegie Unit towards graduation. If you need help knowing how to label this class on a transcript, please feel free to contact me.)

Class Fees:

\$160 (\$40 per month), \$20 supply fee

Supplies needed: Notebook, Writing Utensil, Journal

Grading Scale:

A	90-100	Superior Quality Work
B	80-89	Above Average Work
C	70- 79	Average Work
D	60- 69	Below Average Work
F	59-0	Failing

Grade Breakdown:

Homework:	20%
Speeches:	25%
Debates:	25%
Class participation:	30%

If absent, the student is responsible for contacting me about their missed assignments.

Late work:

Ten points will be deducted for each class period that an assignment is late unless student was absent or has contacted me in advance with a valid excuse.

Class Communications:

I will use the Remind app to keep students and parents updated on important information for this class.

About the Instructor:

My degree is in Journalism/Mass Communications with a specialization in Public Relations from Samford University. I have minors in history and religion. I have 26 hours towards my Masters of Arts in Christian Studies and expect to have it completed in 2023. I have homeschooled and taught other homeschooled children in co-op settings for 18 years. I have a child with dyslexia and love to partner with parents to turn learning difficulties into character strengths. I am passionate about teaching and I have a heart for preparing homeschoolers for all that God has intended for their lives!