



STUDENT ACTIVITIES CONFERENCE  
LONE STAR COLLEGE-NORTH HARRIS  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2024

**As of 9/11/24.**

**Check back for to make sure you have latest program prior to event.**

The UIL/Lone Star College-North Harris Student Activities Conference will acquaint students and coaches with the nature and rules of the UIL academic contests. Conference workshops help prepare you for the Spring Meet competitions and provide opportunities to meet state directors and experts for each contest. Students may attend all sessions, unless otherwise noted. The conference is free and there is no pre-registration.

For Lone Star College North Harris campus information, <https://www.lonestar.edu/northharris.htm>.

**CAR PARKING:** Please park in a legitimate space, and not in handicap spots or fire lanes. **Parking is available in LOT J.** Do not park in spaces marked Faculty.

**BUS DROPS & PARKING:** Buses may drop off in front of the Student Services Building Awning and **park in Lot E/F/J.**

See the **map** for more information.

**INFORMATION DESK:** Located in Student Services Building (SB), Floor 1. **Lone Star College requests school personnel check in to register upon arrival at the info desk.**

**HOSPITALITY:** Located in Fine Arts (FA) 117 open from 8:30-11:30. **Lone Star College will provide snacks and a grab and go lunch for attendees at the Campus Café located in the Student Center.**

**BUILDINGS:** Please wear comfortable shoes and bring an umbrella if it is a rainy day! **ACADEMIC** sessions will be held in Academic Building (ACAD), Student Services Building (SB), and Community Education (CMED). **SPEECH** sessions will be held in Academics Building (ACAD). **THEATRE** Sessions will take place in Fine Arts (ARTS) and Academic Building (ACAD).

**HANDOUTS/PRESENTATIONS/EVALUATIONS:** All attendees are invited to download handouts\* and complete an evaluation form after the conference. We want your input so we can make future conferences as valuable to you as possible.

\*Those wishing to access online handouts during the event should plan to use data services available through their own service providers (3G/4G, LTE, mobile hot spots, etc.). The host site cannot promise good wireless connectivity for attendees.

**Session times:**

**9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.**

**9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.**

**10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.**

**11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.**

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## ACADEMIC COORDINATORS/COACHES

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### ACADEMIC COORDINATORS: DR. DAVID STEVENS, UIL DIRECTOR OF ACADEMICS

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 100.** **Coordinators and Coaches Update.** This is an overview of how the academic coordinator can ensure a successful UIL academic program. We will cover dates, forms and changes for the year. *Dr. David Stevens, UIL director of Academics* **Room ACAD 261**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 101.** **I'm the New Academic Coordinator.** For beginning academic coordinators and coaches. We will cover the basics of getting started and the resources available. *Dr. David Stevens, UIL director of Academics* **Room ACAD 261**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 102.** **Survival Tips for the Academic Coordinator and Coach.** A few ideas on balancing coordinator, coaching and teaching duties to provide a great experience for your UIL academic program. *Janet Stackhouse, Tomball Memorial HS.* **Room ACAD 261**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 103.** **UIL Academics is Family.** This session will be for new and veteran coordinators and students. We will be focusing on building a championship culture, student/community involvement, innovative recruiting tools, fundraising opportunities, and hearing a first-hand account from students of their "why." *Tyler Sullivan and Students, Waller HS.* **Room ACAD 261**

### A+ ACADEMICS: LISA PARKER, UIL DIRECTOR OF A+ AND ESSAY COMPETITIONS

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 104.** **A+ Academics Discussion.** Are you someone who helps with or manages a UIL A+ Academic program for an elementary or middle school campus? If so, please stop by to get any questions answered or guidance needed for your program as it prepares students for competition throughout their academic career. **Room ACAD 273**

### ACCOUNTING: KAY WHITTON, STATE CONTEST DIRECTOR

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 105.** **Accounting Cycle.** From course, to contest, to college, to career. Learn how the accounting contest can reap rewards far beyond the UIL contest. **Room ACAD 263**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 106.** **Accounting Rocks.** Key concepts and hints to help coaches and students learn (and love) UIL Accounting. **Room ACAD 263**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 107.** **Recruiting, Resources, Results.** Kicking off a successful season of UIL accounting competition! For new and experienced coaches and competitors. **Room ACAD 263**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 108.** **Accounting: Puzzles are Fun** This session will be for all levels of experiences for UIL Accounting. Hearing first-hand experience from the back-to-back 6A state championship team on how they attack the UIL Accounting Puzzle. We will be focusing on building a championship culture, student/community involvement, innovative recruiting tools, and access to resources. There will also be small group lead practice time in this session covering material and how to create your own practice packets/tests. *Tyler Sullivan and Students, Waller HS.* **Room ACAD 263**

### CURRENT ISSUES & EVENTS: DR. BRADLEY WILSON, STATE CONTEST DIRECTOR

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 109.** **Keeping it Current.** The Current Issues and Events contest is designed to help students stay informed about more than what is on Twitter, including issues at the local, state, national and international levels. Over time, students become more informed members of society and more culturally aware. Over time, the contest evolves. Discuss this evolution. **Room ACAD 226**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 110.** **Preparing to Write an Essay.** Discuss and learn techniques and examples to write an essay that covers the topic and earns 20 percent of the total score in Current Issues & Events and Social Studies. Review how essay writing is a valuable skill, helping students prepare for college and any work environment. **Room ACAD 226**

**ESSAY CONTESTS:** *LISA PARKER, UIL DIRECTOR OF A+ AND ESSAY COMPETITIONS*

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 111.** **UIL Essay Competitions.** Did you know you can become a UIL state finalist through one research paper submitted online? Come learn about how to be successful in the Barbara Jordan Historical Essay Competition and the Latino History Essay Competition. These two events invite students to showcase their writing and research skills by exploring and highlighting the contributions of historically underrepresented groups in Texas. **Room ACAD 273**

**JOURNALISM:** *ALYSSA BOEHRINGER, UIL DIRECTOR OF JOURNALISM*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 112.** **Copy Editing 101:** Copy editing means more than spelling and punctuation. It's a skill that prepares students for college and the workforce. Learn different levels of editing from checking grammar and style to assessing the legal and ethical implications of mass media. *Bradley Wilson, state contest director.* **Room CMED 101**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 113.** **Good News:** Lead with the future event. Then what? In this session, we'll talk about what makes an award-winning news story and see how you can become a successful reporter for "The Leaguetown Press." *Alyssa Boehringer, UIL Journalism Director.* **Room CMED 101**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 114.** **Feature Comforts:** A powerful lead is everything. In this session, we'll look at how the best feature leads draw the reader into a story — and draw the writer into a successful feature writing contest. *Alyssa Boehringer, UIL Journalism Director.* **Room CMED 101**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 115.** **Take a Stand:** The Highly Capable and Hardworking Human is in the house as we study the editorial writing contest. Get ready to make your voice heard. *Alyssa Boehringer, UIL Journalism Director.* **Room CMED 101**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 116.** **It's All in Your Head:** A good headline tells the reader what the story is about and makes them want to read it, too. In this session, we'll show you how it's done. *Stephen Green, Caney Creek HS.* **Room CMED 101**

**LITERARY CRITICISM:** *MARK BERNIER, STATE CONTEST DIRECTOR*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 117.** **Beginners, Beginners, Beginners.** An overview of the contest with an emphasis on Part 1, items 1-30. **Room ACAD 272**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 118.** **Beginners, Beginners, Beginners, continued.** An overview of the contest with an emphasis on Part 2, items 31-42, and on Part 4's the tie-breaking essay. **Room ACAD 272**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 119.** **Poetry Explication of the Contest.** **Room ACAD 272**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 120.** **Poetry Explication of the Contest, continued.** **Room ACAD 272**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 121.** **One-on-one Conversation with State Contest Director.** Bring all questions about the contest, especially if you are new to the contest. Students are encouraged to ask questions! **Room ACAD 272**

**READY WRITING:** *RUBEN RODRIGUEZ, STATE CONTEST DIRECTOR*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 122.** **Preparing for the Ready Writing Contest.** Double Session Part I. A review of UIL rules, the Ready Writing rubric and contest fundamentals and writing strategies. Designed for first-year competitors and beginning coaches. **Room ACAD 271**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 123.** **Preparing for the Ready Writing Contest.** Double Session Part II. A review of UIL rules, the Ready Writing rubric and contest fundamentals and writing strategies. Designed for first-year competitors and beginning coaches. **Room ACAD 271**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 124.** **Champion Essays.** Double Session Part I. A Close Reading and De-Briefing of a 2024 State Winning Essay: Plusses and Pitfalls. **Room ACAD 271**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 125.** **Champion Essays.** Double Session Part II. A Close Reading and De-Briefing of a 2024 State Winning Essay: Plusses and Pitfalls. **Room ACAD 271**

**SOCIAL STUDIES:** *ANDY BATES, STATE CONTEST DIRECTOR*

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 126.** **Introduction to the Social Studies Contest.** Discuss the basics of how to approach the UIL Social Studies Contest. **Room ACAD 226**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 127.** **Social Studies: Advanced.** Review rules, contest format, information related to this year's topic, what type of questions to expect and resources that will prove useful. Learn about this year's topic: The Rise of Factionalism, Partisanship, and the "Vices of Democracy" in the early United States (1795-1850). **Room ACAD 226**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 110.** **Preparing to Write an Essay.** Analyze the specifics of the 2024-25 UIL Social Studies Topic: The Rise of Factionalism, Partisanship, and the "Vices of Democracy" in the early United States (1795-1850). **Room ACAD 226**

**SPELLING & VOCABULARY:** *LINDA BERREY, STATE CONTEST DIRECTOR*

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 128.** **Becoming Legitimate Logophilic Laureates.** Double Session Part I. Strategies for Upping Your Spelling Game. **Room ACAD 260**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 129.** **Becoming Legitimate Logophilic Laureates.** Double Session Part II. Strategies for Upping Your Spelling Game Continued. **Room ACAD 260**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 130.** **Spelling & Vocabulary Practice Test.** Applying spelling strategies using 2024-2025 Word List. **Room ACAD 260**

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**STEM & ROBOTICS**

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**CALCULATOR APPLICATIONS:** *DON KIRBY, RETIRED, GALENA PARK NORTH SHORE HS*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 200.** **Beginning- Introduction to the Contest, Format, Scoring, Types of Problems.** **Room SB 208C**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 201.** **Intermediate- State of the 2025 Contest and Scaling Problem Workshop.** **Room SB 208C**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 202.** **Intermediate - Significant-Digit Stated Problems.** **Room SB 208C**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 203.** **Advanced - Taking and Scoring a Full Contest.** **Room SB 208C**

**COMPUTER SCIENCE:** *DR. SHYAMAL MITRA, STATE CONTEST ADVISER*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 204.** **Computer Science Contest Rules.** This session is for first-time contestants and coaches. We will review the contest's structure and the basic rules for the written and the programming parts. We will share some tips on how to do well in both. **Room ACAD 269**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 205.** **Computational Thinking.** The foundation of Computer Science is computational thinking. It is a powerful approach to problem-solving with or without computers. Ours will be a gentle introduction to computational thinking using puzzles. **Room ACAD 269**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 206.** **Syntax of Java.** We will cover the basic syntax of Java, including object-oriented programming concepts that will allow you to write powerful programs. We will discuss strategies for mastering the written test. **Room ACAD 269**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 207.** **Basic Algorithms.** Algorithms are step-by-step solutions to computational problems. Most algorithms are composed of some critical components. We'll cover basic algorithms and classes of algorithms, including recursion and data structures, which are helpful in the programming contest. **Room ACAD 269**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 208.** **Computing Resources.** We will survey the resources that are available for self-study or used in a school curriculum to produce world-class programmers. **Room ACAD 269**

#### **MATHEMATICS & NUMBER SENSE:** *CLIFF MCCURDY AND LARRY WHITE, STATE CONTEST DIRECTORS*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 209.** **Mathematics Contest.** Double Session Part I. Overview of the UIL Mathematics contest. Take/grade the new 40 min-60 question SAC 2024 Mathematics test followed by Q & A to discuss/answer questions from the test. *Cliff McCurdy, state contest director.* **Room SB 208B**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 210.** **Mathematics Contest.** Double Session Part II. Overview of the UIL Mathematics contest. Take/grade the new 40 min-60 question SAC 2024 Mathematics test followed by Q & A to discuss/answer questions from the test. *Cliff McCurdy, state contest director.* **Room SB 208B**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 211.** **Number Sense Contest.** Double Session Part I. Review guidelines, rules, resources, practice materials, etc. Take and grade the new 10 min- 80 question SAC 2024 Number Sense Test followed by Q&A to discuss/answer questions from the test. *Larry White, state contest director.* **Room SB 208B**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 212.** **Number Sense Contest.** Double Session Part II. Review guidelines, rules, resources, practice materials, etc. Take and grade the new 10 min- 80 question SAC 2024 Number Sense Test followed by Q&A to discuss/answer questions from the test. *Larry White, state contest director.* **Room SB 208B**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 213.** **Number Sense & Mathematics Q&A.** *Cliff McCurdy & Larry White, state contest director.* **Room SB 208B**

#### **SCIENCE:** *DR. MICHELLE MCGEHEE AND DR. BRIAN ANDERSON, STATE CONTEST DIRECTORS*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 214.** **The Big Picture.** An overview of the Science contest, how to prepare your students and what to expect from the test writers. *Dr. Brian Anderson and Dr. Michelle McGehee.* **Room SB 208A**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 215.** **Biology Deep Dive.** Deconstructing the Science test, with insights into how Biology section is developed. *Dr. Michelle McGehee, state contest director.* **Room SB 208A**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 216.** **Chemistry Deep Dive.** Deconstructing the Science test, with insights into how Chemistry section is developed. *Dr. Brian Anderson, state contest director.* **Room SB 208A**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 217.** **Coaches' Roundtable.** A discussion among science coaches and directors about recruiting, motivating, and preparing students for the UIL Science competition. New coaches as well as veteran coaches are invited to attend. *Dr. Brian Anderson and Dr. Michelle McGehee.* **Room SB 208A**

#### **ROBOTICS:** *DAVID TRUSSELL, UIL DIRECTOR OF STEM*

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 218.** **Introduction to UIL Robotics.** Double Session Part I. An overview of program structure, options and guidelines for participation, recommended resources, and more. **Room ACAD 265**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 219.** **Introduction to UIL Robotics.** Double Session Part II. An overview of program structure, options and guidelines for participation, recommended resources, and more. **Room ACAD 265**

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**SPEECH, DEBATE AND CONGRESS**

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**ORAL INTERPRETATION:** *M'Liss Hindman, state contest director*

9:00 a.m. 9:45 a.m.

**Session 300.** **Prose and Poetry: Let's Start at the Very Beginning.** For novice competitors. Starting at the very beginning is a very good place to start if you're new to oral performance in high school. This workshop introduces novice and new prose/poetry coaches to the contest rules and procedures. *Ann Shofner, UIL consultant.* **Room ACAD 141**

**Session 301.** **Put the PROse in Prose (and Poetry).** For advanced competitors. Discussion on performance considerations that will polish your performance like a pro! *Jana Riggins, UIL Director; M'Liss Hindman, state contest director.* **Room ACAD 139**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 302.** **Categories for 2024-25.** For novice and varsity competitors and coaches. Don't "miss the boat this season!" Walk through the revised prose and poetry categories including a discussion of the true intent of Category A and B performers should understand when planning their performances. *M'Liss Hindman, state contest director; Jana Riggins, UIL Speech Director.* **Room ACAD 139**

10:50 a.m. - 11:35 a.m.

**Session 303.** **Choices! Choices! Choices!** For novice and varsity competitors. Preparing your performances requires lots of important and deliberate choices. Let's dig deep into these important elements of preparation. *M'Liss Hindman, Director of Forensics, Tyler Junior College.* **Room ACAD 139**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 304.** **Prose and Poetry Performance Showcase: Recognizing Joy.** This session features performances to demonstrate **Category A: Recognizing Joy.** Be inspired by performances followed by oral critiques by experienced judges that share insight into what this category is all about. *Sammy Green, former member, State Prose and Poetry Committee; M'Liss Hindman, state contest director; Wade Hescht, Lone Star College.* **Room ACAD 142, Black Box**

12:40 p.m. — 1:25 p.m.

**Session 305.** **Prose and Poetry Performance Showcase: Inspiring Change.** This session features performances to demonstrate **Category B: Inspiring Change.** Be inspired by performances followed by oral critiques by experienced judges that share insight into what this category is all about. *Sammy Green, former member, State Prose and Poetry Committee; M'Liss Hindman, state contest director; Wade Hescht, Lone Star College.* **Room ACAD 142, Black Box**

**EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING:** *Ann Shofner, state contest director*

9:00 a.m. — 9:45 a.m.

**Session 306.** **A Toolkit for Extemporaneous Speaking.** For experienced speakers. The economic way of thinking provides a toolkit for making sense of complex issues often addressed in informative and persuasive speaking questions. Economic discussion about top issues of energy, inequality, globalization, and labor mobility. *Greg Rehmkne, Economic Thinking.* **Room ACAD 161**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 307.** **An Introduction to Extemporaneous Speaking.** For novice competitors. Gain insight about the rules, draw room procedures and strategies for competing in Informative and Persuasive Speaking. *Ann Shofner, state contest director.* **Room ACAD 141**

10:50 a.m. - 11:35 a.m.

**Session 308.** **Listen, People to What I Say!** For novice and varsity speakers. Hear an experienced competitor deliver an extemporaneous speech and then we will examine the choices the speaker made. Audience members will have the opportunity to ask questions about preparation, topic choice, organizational structure and other important elements demonstrated in the speech. *Ann Shofner, moderator, state contest director.* **Room ACAD 141**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 309.** **Working for the Weekend.** For novice and varsity competitors. What does it take to be ready to excel at tournaments? How do you make your electronic files work for you? A discussion about prepping for tournament weekends. *Joseph Collatos, Caney Creek HS.* **Room ACAD 141**

**Session 310.** **A Toolkit for Extemporaneous Speaking.** For experienced speakers. (repeat session) The economic way of thinking provides a toolkit for making sense of complex issues often addressed in informative and persuasive speaking questions. Economic discussion about top issues of energy, inequality, globalization, and labor mobility. *Greg Rehmke, Economic Thinking.* **Room ACAD 161**

12:40 p.m. — 1:25 p.m.

**Session 311.** **Do You Want to Know a Secret?** For novice and varsity competitors. What do judges look for in Informative and Persuasive Speaking rounds? Using the UIL Extemporaneous Speaking ballots for analysis, learn the keys to what a successful speaker can do verbally and nonverbally to rank high in their round. Tips on what makes a speaker stand out as the champion in the round. *Ann Shofner, state contest director.* **Room ACAD 141**

**DEBATE:** *Dr. Rich Edwards, state contest director*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 312.** **The Basics of Lincoln Douglas Debate.** For novice competitors. Familiarizes beginning students with value debate. Learn LD Debate format, speaker responsibilities and case construction. *Jimmy Smith, Collinsville HS.* **Room ACAD 163**

**Session 313.** **Advanced Lincoln Douglas Debate: Concepts and Strategies.** For varsity debaters. This workshop will explore effective arguments and strategies for varsity LD debaters. *Stephen Green, Caney Creek HS.* **Room ACAD 143**

**Session 314.** **Getting Started in Cross-Examination Debate.** For beginners. Come listen to CX debate made user-friendly. Learn the contest format, speaker responsibilities and understand basic terminology. *Dr. Rich Edwards, Baylor University, UIL Debate consultant.* **Room ACAD 126**

**Session 315.** **Advanced CX Debate:** For varsity debaters. A discussion of advanced concepts and strategies that can bring success in the debate round. Andrew Gibson, *The Woodlands: College Park HS.* **Room ACAD 171**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 316.** **Lincoln Douglas Debate: The Science, Economics and Ethics of Agroecology and Regenerative Agriculture.** For novice and varsity debaters. Discussion focusing on both the affirmative and the negative sides of the UIL Fall LD Debate agriculture topic. *Greg Rhemke, Economic Thinking.* **Room ACAD 161**

**Session 317.** **CX Debate Topic Analysis: The Affirmative.** For novice and varsity debaters. The author of the *Policy Debate Quarterly* will examine the **affirmative** position providing great information and insight in this year's policy debate topic. Common affirmative cases will be discussed. *Dr. Rich Edwards, Baylor University and UIL Debate consultant.* **Room ACAD 126**

10:50 a.m. — 11:35 a.m.

- Session 318.** **Lincoln Douglas Debate: Framework and Contentions.** For novice and varsity LD debaters. A review of the important elements necessary in an LD case and how to write a competitive one. *Stephen Green, Conroe: Caney Creek HS. Room ACAD 171*
- Session 319.** **Lincoln Douglas Debate: The Science, Economics and Ethics of Agroecology and Regenerative Agriculture.** For novice and varsity debaters. (repeat session) Discussion focused on affirmative and negative sides of UIL Fall LD Debate agriculture topic. *Greg Rhemke, Economic Thinking. Room ACAD 161*
- Session 320.** **CX Debate Topic Analysis: The Negative. For novice and varsity debaters.** The author of the *Policy Debate Quarterly*, the first and most authoritative research released on the policy topic each year, will examine the **negative** position of this year's policy debate topic. *Dr. Rich Edwards, Baylor University and UIL debate consultant. Room ACAD 126*

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

- Session 321.** **Lincoln Douglas Topic Analysis.** For novice and varsity debaters. A deep dive into UIL Fall LD Debate topic to examine affirmative and negative arguments. *Dr. Rich Edwards, Baylor University and UIL debate consultant. Room ACAD 139*
- Session 322.** **Cross-Examination Debate Demonstration Round: Part I.** Watch a live round of policy debate. This session will demonstrate the constructive speeches and include the cx questioning period. *Andrew Gibson, moderator, The Woodlands: College Park HS. Room ACAD 126*

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

- Session 323.** **Cross-Examination Debate Demonstration Round: Part II.** Watch a live round of policy debate. This session will demonstrate the second half of a policy debate round featuring the rebuttal speeches and commentary. *Andrew Gibson, moderator, The Woodlands: College Park HS. Room ACAD 126*
- Session 324.** **Critical Issues CX Debaters Need to Know about Intellectual Property.** Highlights of this discussion include ownership of ideas, songs, technologies, fair use, tradeoffs, and contracts. *Greg Rehmkke, Economic Thinking. Room ACAD 161*
- Session 325.** **Lincoln Douglas Debate: Demonstration.** Watch a live round of LD Debate over the UIL Fall Topic. *Jimmy Smith, moderator, Collinsville HS. Room ACAD 139*

**CONGRESS:** *Jana Riggins, UIL director of Speech, Debate and Congress*

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

- Session 326.** **An Introduction to Congress.** If this is your first experience competing in Congress, come learn about this exciting event – we'll cover the rules, legislation, chamber roles and parliamentary procedure. *Jimmy Smith, Collinsville HS. Room ACAD 143*

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

- Session 327.** **Writing Effective Legislation.** For novice and varsity competitors and coaches. The better the bills and resolutions, the better the debate in the chamber. Writing strong legislation is even more important since the number of legislative pieces that will be debated at State Congress will be reduced so legislation will need to be exceptional to make the docket. This session will review what you need to do to make your legislation strong. *Joseph Collatos, ESC 6 Region Clerk, Caney Creek HS. Room ACAD 143*

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

- Session 328.** **Unlocking the Door to Success.** A discussion of the keys to success in Congress competition with advice on how to prepare and strategies within the chamber to make legislators more competitive. A Question/Answer period will be provided. *Joseph Collatos, Caney Creek HS. Room ACAD 143*

**SPEECH COACH SESSION:** *Jana Riggins, UIL director of Speech, Debate and Congress*

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

- Session 329.** **Let's Talk All About Speech and Debate!** For coaches. Need clarification on rules or contest procedures? Dates and deadlines? Want to share a creative idea for state meet or a potential contest



rule change? Need to get “up to speed” for the new season? Join your state speech and debate director and let’s dialogue! *Jana Riggins, UIL director. Room ACAD 132*

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### THEATRE, DESIGN AND FILM

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**ONE-ACT PLAY:** *Paula Rodriguez, UIL director of theatre*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 400.** **Let’s start from the very beginning.** (For teachers) Session covers UIL One Act Play rules, planning, updates and questions! For ALL OAP Directors. *Paula Rodriguez, UIL Theatre Director. Room ARTS 118*

**Session 401.** **KA-POW! - Stage Combat Slaps That Actually Work!** Learn SAFE but dramatically effective SLAPS & PUNCHES for the stage that really help “sell” the moment! Bonus: Learn why you should NEVER “just slap'em” -- No More Contact Slaps!! You won't need them with these techniques! Taught by nationally recognized Society of American Fight Directors Certified Teacher, *H. Russ Brown, Head of Theatre & Artistic Director, College of the Mainland. Room ARTS 115 Performing Arts Theatre*

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 402.** **OAP - Honesty Advances.** This workshop focuses on Directing / Acting Coaching that wins over audiences and elevates your storytelling to the next level!! Focusing on simple, clear, actionable strategies and techniques prevent to generate an emotionally engaging, communal experience for everyone in “the room where it happens.” *H. Russ Brown, Head of Theatre & Artistic Director, College of the Mainland. Room ARTS 115 Performing Arts Theatre*

**Session 403.** **Stage Management for OAP.** University of Houston Stage Management Students (and OAP alums) will present different ways to keep your piece on track and together on the road, with our found best practices from our time participating in UIL, at the university level, and in the profession. *Joseph Blanchard, University of Houston Stage Management student. Room 118*

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 404.** **Knowing Your Students and Knowing Yourself: Self-Care for Theatre Educators.** An opportunity for teachers to reassess their own personal goals and learn strategies and tools to prioritize themselves in order to be better theatre educators for students. *Dr. Margo Hickman, Head of BFA Theatre Education, University of Houston School of Theatre and Dance. Room ARTS 118*

**Session 405.** **Laban Effort Actions - An Actor’s Physical Vocabulary!** Exploration of the Laban Effort Actions as an actor's "toolbox" to expand their physical storytelling ability. Break out of your habitual patterns to create interesting and dynamic characters onstage! *H. Russ Brown, Head of Theatre & Artistic Director, College of the Mainland. Room ARTS 115 Performing Arts Theatre*

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 406.** **Prepare Students for University Theatre Programs.** Tips to assist teachers and students with preparing for university theatre programs, completing the application process, the importance of deadlines, auditioning, etc. *Dr. Margo Hickman, Head of BFA Theatre Education, University of Houston School of Theatre and Dance. Room ARTS 118*

**Session 407.** **That's a Wrap...and Other Ways to Enhance Your Set.** In this session teachers and students will learn how to sew a pylon wrap that won't slide down, how to hang wallpaper on your flats, and how to create wraps for your UIL step units and platforms. *Jill Tanner, theatre director, Caney Creek HS. Room ARTS 115 Performing Arts Theatre*

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 408.** **Playwriting as Dreaming for Everyone.** The workshop aspires to help students and people of all ages write theatrically about the things they want to write about. Using “dreams” as a guide, the workshop goals are to free writers up to use their full power of creativity, imagination, and to empower them to writes about their passions, points of interest, and through their own unique, awesome voices. We will actively write together in a supportive, encouraging environment centered on listening and understanding and fun. *Greg Romero, Head of BFA Playwriting & Directing Program, University of Houston. Room ARTS 201*

**Session 409.** **BRITISH RP - Dialects Made EASY!!** *H. Russ Brown, Head of Theatre & Artistic Director, College of the Mainland. Room ARTS 115 Performing Arts Theatre*

**Session 410.** **Let's Start from the Very Beginning.** Repeat session. (For teachers) Session covers UIL One Act Play rules, planning, updates and questions! For all OAP Directors. *Paula Rodriguez, UIL Theatre Director.*  
**Room ARTS 118**

**THEATRICAL DESIGN:** *Rachael Gomez, state contest director*

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**Session 411.** **The Basics: What is the Theatrical Design Contest?** For those looking to enter the contest for the first time or would like a refresher on expectations. Because the challenge is different every year, it's important to update as you start your competition year. If you have never participated but would like to, hopefully this session will inspire you to compete in what promises to be our best year ever. **Room ARTS 119**

9:55 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

**Session 412.** **The Contest Prompt.** Double Session Part 1. Our contest this year is based on the play *Axoloris*, by Sean Mendelsohn. The design challenges are exciting and offer some new project opportunities within the different categories. We will dig into many possibilities of themes to explore and how to express them within your designs. **Room ARTS 119**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 413.** **The Contest Prompt.** Double Session Part 2. Our contest this year is based on the play *Axoloris*, by Sean Mendelsohn. The design challenges are super exciting and offer some new project opportunities within the different categories. This session will dig into the many possibilities of themes to explore and how to express them within your designs. **Room ARTS 119**

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Session 414.** **What Makes a Winning Entry?** Theatrical Design Contest incorporates a 30/30/20/20 Evaluation system. Learn what to do to maximize success within each criteria. This is ultimately an artistic communication contest so let's talk about what that looks like for you. We will also talk pro-tips and tricks for making your entry stand out. **Room ARTS 119**

12:40 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

**Session 415.** **Build Your Team.** With the introduction of the new UIL MS Theatrical Design Contest you have the chance to grow your learning and resources as a High School team. Learn lots of ways to work and learn together and exponentially increase your chance for success. **Room ARTS 119**

**FILM**

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

**Session 416.** **Getting Started with the UIL Film Festival-** Are you new to UIL Film? (For students and teachers) This session will give you a jump start. Get informed about the categories & rules, view examples of past winners, and find the inspiration to use film as a storytelling medium. *Paula Rodriguez, UIL Theatre Director.* **Room ARTS 201**