



MEMORANDUM

To: UIL High School Academic Coordinators and Coaches
From: Dr. David Stevens, UIL Director of Academics
Re: 2024-2025 Academic Coordinator Information
Date: August 2024

The UIL academic staff looks forward to working with you in the year ahead. Please check our website for current information and forms, but feel free to contact us when you have questions or need assistance. Below is information that will help get the year started.

ACADEMIC COORDINATOR, COACHES AND DIRECTOR REGISTRATION

Registration must be completed **each year** for individuals to receive important updates. **Please register no later than Oct. 1.**

Each high school campus coordinator should complete the [academic coordinator registration form](#) for your campus. The link is on the right-hand side of the page. Please note that schools are listed by city, then school. This registration includes space for you to list contact emails for each event coach. If you do not have that information, please leave it blank for now.

The annual [speech coach registration](#) form should be completed by each coach of speaking events at the beginning of each school year. Please register no later than Oct. 1.

Theatre directors will register during the [one-act play enrollment](#) process, due Oct. 1.

For elementary and middle school academic coordinator registration, dates and deadlines, visit the [A+ Academics](#) section of the UIL website.

COORDINATOR'S MANUAL and EVENT HANDBOOKS

The ***Academic Coordinator's Manual***, updated annually, can be downloaded from the [Handbooks and Manuals webpage](#). This site also includes resource guides and handbooks for each academic event with contest rules and procedures intended for contest directors, coaches and contestants.

STUDY MATERIALS

Every contest has a dedicated webpage with notes from contest directors and additional resources. New this year, academic contest study packets are now being provided at NO COST from our [Study Materials webpage](#). Our [online store](#) also provides additional resources at low costs.

RULES COMPLIANCE, SAFETY, OR CPR

The online Rules Compliance Program, Safety Training and CPR training are not a UIL requirement for academic coaches or coordinators. However, your school district may have requirements beyond what is required by UIL. UIL Academics does not utilize the RMA (Register My Athlete) online program.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES CONFERENCES

This year's schedule includes four in-person sessions offering contest information, instruction and tips to help coaches and students prepare for the 2024 competition season. Sessions will be scheduled for all UIL academic contest areas.

- Sept. 7 – Tyler Junior College, Tyler
- Sept. 14 – Lone Star College- North Harris, Houston
- Oct. 5 – Texas Tech University, Lubbock
- Nov. 2 – University of Texas, Austin

Please check the [Student Activities Conference webpage](#) often for details. A full program of events at each site will be posted and updated approximately two weeks before the conference. Attendance is free.

UPDATED INFORMATION ON THE WEBSITE

- Topics and required readings are posted for [Social Studies](#) and [Literary Criticism](#).
- Word Power can be downloaded from the [Spelling and Vocabulary webpage](#).
- The current approved Science calculator list and Physics study text are posted, along with updated notes from Science contest directors on the [Science webpage](#).
- Prose and Poetry [categories](#) are updated.
- [Handbooks and manuals](#) for academic contests are updated and posted.

INVITATIONAL MEETS

Arrange to attend UIL invitational tournaments or practice meets before the district contest. A list of meets is posted on the [Academic Invitational Meets and Tournament](#) webpage and is updated as sites inform UIL they are hosting a meet.

ACADEMIC DISTRICT MEETS

Planning meetings with all coordinators, speech coaches and one-act play directors should be scheduled or have already taken place to make recommendations to the District Executive Committee for dates and locations for this year's district meets. The list of [District Meet Directors](#) is updated as we receive information. UIL will not officially know the date of your meet until February 1 or when the meet is set up in the online entry system by the meet director.

ACADEMIC REGIONAL SITES

Handbooks and information from the Regional Academic and Speech Meet hosts will be posted on the [Region Meets site](#), when available.

ACADEMIC AND SPEECH STATE MEETS

Information will be posted when available.

[Academic State Meet](#)

[Congress State Meet](#)

[CX Debate State Meet](#)

[Speech State Meet](#)

IMPORTANT HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC DEADLINES 2024-25

THIS LIST IS TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Please check the [official UIL calendar](#) on the UIL website for the most updated information for deadlines and contest dates.

NOTE: The deadline for all contestant entries in academic events is no later than 10 calendar days before the day of the meet unless otherwise designated.

SEPTEMBER 10

- Complete Congress [Intent to Participate](#) Deadline

OCTOBER 1

- Academic Coordinator [Registration](#) (must register every year)
- Spring Meet District Chair and District Academic Meet Director [Contact Information](#)
- CX Debate [Planning Meeting](#) Deadline
- One-Act Play [Enrollment](#)
- Speech & Debate Coach [Registration](#) (must register every year)

NOVEMBER 1

- CX [Director](#) Information
- OAP Director's Planning Meeting Deadline

DECEMBER 1

- Deadline for district official to set up CX District Meet in SpeechWire
- ILPC Yearbook Deadline

DECEMBER 6

- Set A [Invitational](#) Materials Order Deadline
- Deadline to request One-Act Play scenic elements not permissible and to submit plays not on Approved List for consideration as contest entries for high school contests

JANUARY 10

- Set B [Invitational](#) Materials Order Deadline

JANUARY 11

- Young Filmmakers Festival Entry Deadline

FEBRUARY 10

- OAP Title Entry Deadline

FEBRUARY 12

- Barbara Jordan and Latino History Essay Contest Entry Deadline

FEBRUARY 13

- CX State Judge and Certification Due

FEBRUARY 15

- Theatrical Design Entry Deadline
- ILPC News and Broadcast Deadline

APRIL 3

- OAP District and Bi-District Certification Deadline for high school contests



Academic Reading Selections & Study Resources

Listed are resources to prepare for the 2024-2025 academic competition season.

Academic contest study packets are now being provided at NO COST from our Study Materials webpage.

Additionally, every contest has a dedicated webpage with notes and resources from contest directors.

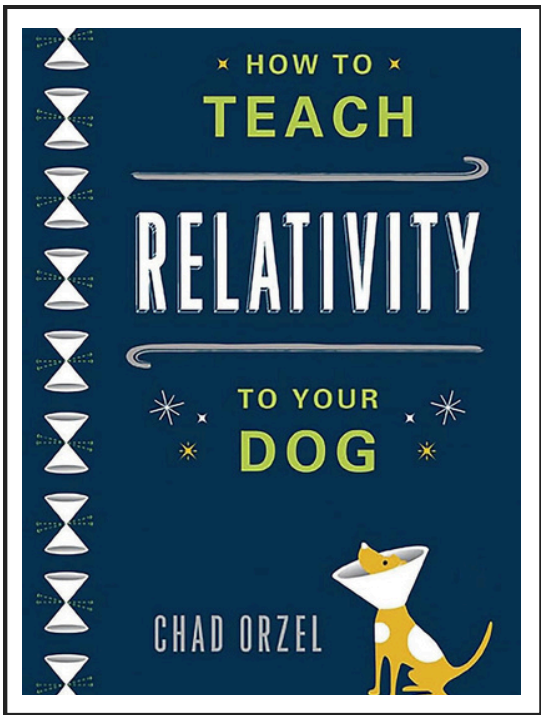
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High School Academic Study Packets

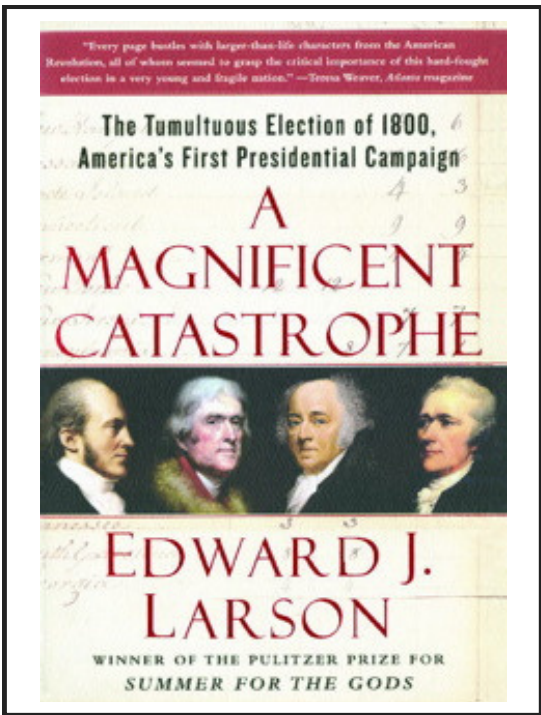


University Interscholastic League
www.uil texas.org/academics/resources/study-materials

Previous Contest Materials



Physics Study Text



Social Studies
Primary Reading

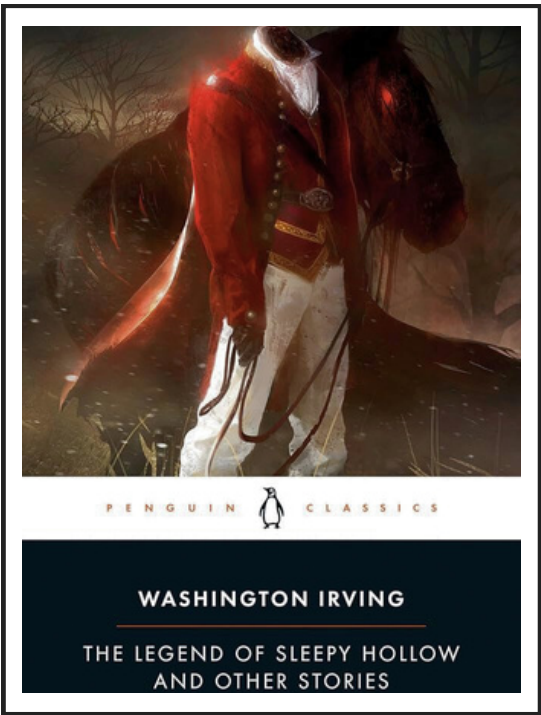
Digital Download

Word Power Spelling & Vocabulary 2024-2025 Word List

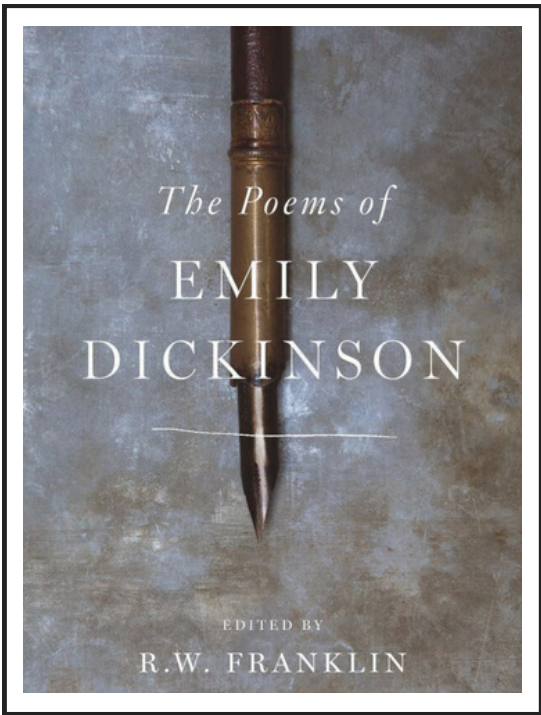


University Interscholastic League
<https://www.uil texas.org/academics/academic-contests/spelling-and-vocabulary>

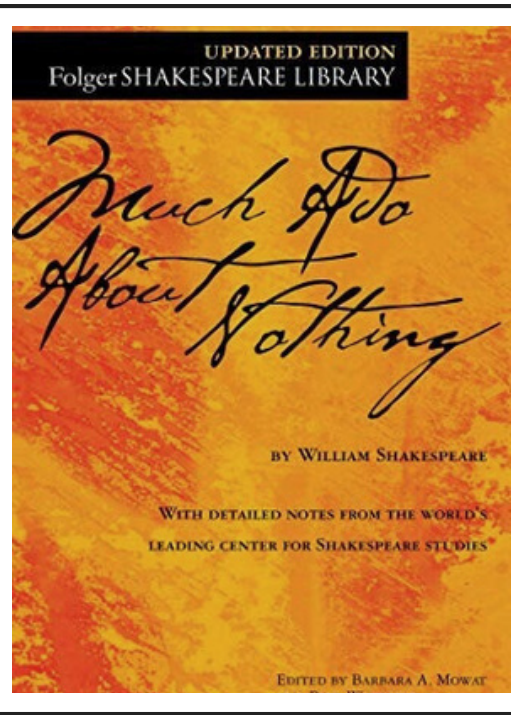
Spelling Word List



Literary Criticism
Reading Selections



Literary Criticism
Reading Selections



Literary Criticism
Reading Selections



29th ANNUAL CAPITAL CONFERENCE

for High School, Elementary & Junior High Academic Coordinators
Speech/Debate & Academic Coaches & One-Act Play Directors/Contest Managers

SUMMER 2025

Think of it as coaching school for UIL academics!

Held each summer in Austin, the UIL Capital Conference offers everything a speech coach, theatre director, academic coach or coordinator from elementary to high school needs to know. It features many of the state's most successful academic coaches as well as UIL state contest directors. The Capital Conference is the most effective way to make certain your contest year is a success!

For more information and registration, go to
www.uiltexas.org/academics/capital-conference

2024 STUDENT ACTIVITIES CONFERENCES

for High School students in Academic, Speech/Debate and One-Act Play
held during the fall semester on college campuses

SEPTEMBER 7

Tyler Junior College
Tyler



SEPTEMBER 14

Lone Star College-North Harris
Houston



OCTOBER 5

Texas Tech University
Lubbock



NOVEMBER 2

The University of Texas at Austin



★ They're free! No pre-registration needed!

★ Most conferences begin at 9 a.m. and end by 1:30 p.m. without a lunch break. This allows us greater flexibility in scheduling without sacrificing program quality, and allows schools to return home earlier. Bring along snacks for students who need a sugar or carbo boost around noon.

★ Conferences are scheduled as best as possible to minimize conflicts with national testing dates, band contests and state conventions and to maximize participation by the finest students and teachers in Texas. Pre-registration is not required and there is no fee for attendance.

★ Instructional sessions are designed for beginning students, advanced students and academic coordinators and coaches. Lectures and demonstrations will be scheduled for all UIL academic contests, including One-Act Play.

★ Conferences feature lectures and presentations by UIL contest directors, college professors and high school teachers. Sessions will include discussions on contest preparation, demonstrations, performances and contest administration. Students may choose from novice and advanced sessions in some academic areas, as well as small-group sessions in specific UIL activities.

★ Bring students! Most sessions are intended to help students begin preparing for high school spring contests. Mark your calendar and plan to attend one or more!

★ Programs for each site will be posted on the UIL website for you to print ahead of time or view online during event. Printed programs will not be available at sites.

www.uiltexas.org/academics/student-activity-conferences



Interscholastic League
Press Conference

Contact

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ILPC Director
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Follow

Find us on Facebook
and Instagram

Membership Form

www.uiltexas.org/journalism

Contest Information

www.uiltexas.org/journalism/ilpc/contests

ILPC Website

www.uiltexas.org/journalism/ilpc

Welcome to the official scholastic press association for student journalists in the state of Texas.

This organization offers a wealth of resources and opportunities for your scholastic media program — for both high school and middle school. From **contests and critiques** to **conventions** to **workshops**, ILPC has it all for you and your students to share the work you do in your yearbook, newspaper, broadcast and online news staffs and share it with other student journalists in the state.

We encourage you to join, enter the competitions, attend the convention and participate in the summer workshop. Joining is simple and quick and can transform your students' scholastic journalism experience.

If you are new to scholastic journalism or have questions about **ILPC**, contact Alyssa Boehringer at aboehringer@uiltexas.org.



Photos by Charlie Shanks from UNT and Celia Ruiz from Port Neches-Groves.



ONLINE RESOURCES, CONTESTS & CRITIQUES

ILPC offers critiques for newspapers (both print and online), yearbooks and broadcast programs. Our experienced judges will give you critical feedback for your programs so you can continue to move your students forward. We also have Individual Achievement Award (IAA) contests for each medium. We have dozens of categories for individual students to compete. We even have a rookie IAA category for schools that have not participated in ILPC for the past three years.

All winners from our IAA contests are announced at the ILPC Spring Convention. Additionally, we have a leadership contest for the editors and producers of your programs and a contest just for advisers.

The deadline for the yearbook contest is Dec. 1. The deadline for newspaper and broadcasts contests is Feb. 15.

SPRING CONVENTION APRIL 11-13, 2025

Each spring, ILPC hosts a convention where we announce winners from our contests and offer more than 75 break-out sessions for students and advisers.

Our presenters range from Pulitzer-Prize winning photographers to award-winning advisers to college professors. Our presentations cover a plethora of topics relating to all forms of media — from “What Skills you Need in the Real World” to “How to Improve Your Feature Leads.”

The two-day event is held in April and is a great way to end your school year and prepare future leaders for what's to come. In addition to the speakers and award presentations, ILPC also offers an on-site contest for students who want one more competition.

The convention is held on the University of Texas campus.

Come join the fun and go home ready to finish the year strong.

SUMMER WORKSHOP JUNE 13-14 (Tentative)

Since 1980, ILPC summer publications workshops have set the standards for excellence. Staffs that are serious about producing high-quality media return each year. For three days, students and advisers participate in an intensive learning environment, headed by many of the nation's finest journalism instructors. These instructors are dedicated to one goal: helping others create the finest school newspapers, broadcasts, online news sites and yearbooks possible. Students and advisers alike return to school in August ready to tackle their jobs, whether they're beginning reporters or veteran advisers.

In 2024, ILPC joined forces with TAJE to provide the ultimate workshop experience at Texas State University. More details on the 2025 workshop will be out soon.

The Barbara Jordan Historical Essay Competition

2024-2025

sponsored by THE UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

THEME — *African Americans in Texas: Past and Present*

ENTRY DEADLINE — **February 12, 2025**

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

- All students selected as state finalists will be eligible to apply for Texas Interscholastic League Foundation scholarships (tilfoundation.org). Eligible applicants have access to **dozens of scholarship opportunities**; this school year alone, the TILF will disburse more than \$1 million in scholarships to almost 600 students.
- The Barbara Jordan Historical Essay Competition is open to all students in grades 9-12 attending UIL member high schools. State finalists will be selected from essays entered. In addition to scholarship eligibility, finalists will compete for state awards and will be invited to attend the Academic State Meet in May.
- Entry forms, contest guidelines and other important information are available on the UIL website.



"A nation is formed by the willingness of each of us to share in the responsibility for upholding the common good."

— BARBARA JORDAN

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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University Interscholastic League
uiltexas.org/academics

Latino History Essay Competition

2024-2025

sponsored by THE UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

THEME — *Historical and cultural legacies of Latinos in Texas history*

ENTRY DEADLINE — **February 12, 2025**

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

- All students selected as state finalists will be eligible to apply for Texas Interscholastic League Foundation scholarships (tilfoundation.org). Eligible applicants have access to **dozens of scholarship opportunities**; this school year alone, the TILF will disburse more than \$1 million in scholarships to almost 600 students.
- The Latino History Essay Competition is open to all students in grades 9-12 attending UIL member high schools. State finalists will be selected from essays entered. In addition to scholarship eligibility, finalists will compete for state awards and will be invited to attend the Academic State Meet in May.
- Entry forms, contest guidelines and other important information are available on the UIL website.



Photos of George I. Sánchez, Gloria Anzaldúa, and Américo Paredes are courtesy of the Nettie Benson Latin American Collection at The University of Texas at Austin. Photo of Irma Rangel courtesy of The South Texas Archives, Texas A&M University - Kingville.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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uiltexas.org/academics

Debate fall Planning Meeting

Debate coaches representing all district schools should be invited to attend the fall planning meeting held prior to October 1. Refer to the UIL Academic Meet Director's Manual for a detailed discussion of each item below.

SUGGESTED AGENDA

- In addition to CX Debate, it is wise to discuss Congress information that has been established by the congressional region and LD Debate contest details at this time, if school representatives are in attendance. (refer to the UIL official calendar and C&CR)
- Appoint a CX Contest Director. The name and material order should be provided to the League office no later than Nov. 1. The CX Director Information form is found on the UIL website at www.uil texas.org/speech/debate.
- Determine whether Spring Meet Director or CX Contest Director will be responsible for setting up CX District Meet in the Spring Meet Online System by Dec 1 as it is entered as a separate meet in from the academic meet.
- Select the contest site. Consider the number of rooms required for debating and contest tabulation.
- Set the contest date(s) and time schedule.
- Decide on the format (round robin, prelims for elimination seeding) to determine winners.
- Determine who will be involved in pairing the debates.
- Decide whether to alter or break brackets to prevent teams from the same school from debating each other. This is critical to determine at this meeting.
- Establish the order of the criteria for tabulating results.
- Discuss who recruits judges and what judging requirements (age, credentials, experience) should be followed to secure a competent judging pool. At minimum, judges should be high school graduates.
- Set a deadline for confirming judges.
- Establish tabulation room procedures, particularly in terms of ballot verification and open/closed tab room.
- Check the number of awards needed and determine who will order them.
- Outline hospitality/concession plans.
- Collect contact information from all schools and confirm the date that district schools can expect to receive a copy of the finalized details of the contest.
- Remind schools of online entry deadlines and emphasize the importance of notifying contest officials in a timely manner if there are changes in the entry. Discuss district ruling concerning late entries.
- Review dates/deadlines district winners must meet to represent your district at the state meet.