

The UIL/UTRGV 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. The conference is free and there is no pre-registration.

For UTRGV maps and other campus information, visit <u>http://www.uiltexas.org/files/academics/UIL_Student_Activities_Conference_Map-v3.jpg</u>

PARKING: Event parking will be in areas E 19 and E 16. Bus parking will be in area E 19. Drop-off in PAC circle and between field house and Health/PE building. All vehicles should display this <u>parking pass</u> on their dash.

HOSPITALITY FOR COACHES: UTRGV invites coordinators, administrators and academic coaches to stop by ENGR 1.290 for a cup of coffee or light refreshments.

ON & OFF CAMPUS FOOD OPTIONS: UTRGV Cafeteria will be open from 10:30 am – 1:30 pm as well as the lobby of The College of Engineering and Computer Science for light snack/drink options. Schools also have the option to call Sodexo (University Caterer) to make meal arrangements <u>in advance</u> of conference by contacting Belinda Lara, Catering Manager at 956-665-7486 or email <u>belinda.villarrealLara@sodexo.com</u>. The following restaurants are within walking or drive distance: Dairy Queen, Raising Cane's, Pizza Hut, La Pesca Seafood Restaurant, and Khan's Grill.

BUILDINGS: Speech and Debate sessions will be held in College of Business and Entrepreneurship (COBE). Theatre sessions will take place in the Liberal Arts Building South (ELABS). All others will take place in either the Science Building, (SCNE) or Engineering Building (ENGR).

HANDOUTS: To conserve paper and resources, we plan to significantly reduce the quantity of paper handouts distributed at each student activity conference. PDF files of presentation materials (as available) will be posted to a conference webpage that will be accessible during and after the event (uiltexas.org/academics/student-activity-conferences). Wi-fi Internet access may be available at some sites but is not guaranteed, and no tech support will be available. Those wishing to access online handouts during the event should plan to use data services available through their own service providers (3G/4G, mobile hot spots, etc.).

ACADEMIC COORDINATORS/COACHES

Academic sessions will be held in the Science Building and in the Engineering Building.

ACADEMIC COORDINATORS: Dr. David Stevens, UIL director of academics

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

- Session 100: Surviving and Thriving as a High School Academic Coordinator and Coach. (This session begins later to accommodate those getting students to sessions.) Are you wanting ideas about recruiting students, encouraging coaches, and maintaining some level of sanity amidst your day-to-day responsibilities? We have successes, learning opportunities, and tips on how to balance coordinator, coaching and teaching duties and provide great opportunities for your UIL academic program. Angie Culberson-Espinosa and Ofelia Garza, co-coordinators, Sharyland HS. Room EENGR 1.274
- 10:45 a.m. Noon
 - Session 101: From Start to Finish. For academic coordinators and coaches. This is an overview for the academic coordinator to have a successful UIL academic program. We will cover tips on recruiting, planning and organizing, as well as dates, forms, resources and where you can get help. Dr. David Stevens, UIL director of academics. Room EENGR 1.274

12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Session 102: From Start to Finish Continued. The dialogue continues from where we were in prior session. (This session concludes early to accommodate those getting students from sessions.) Dr. David Stevens, UIL director of academics. Room EENGR 1.274

A+ ACADEMIC COORDINATORS: Lisa Parker, UIL director of A+ Academics

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

- Session 103: Managing an A+ Academics Program. Find out how to start or grow your UIL A+ Academics program for students in grades 2-8. This session will cover the basics of getting started, go over the FAQs, and offer time for you to get your questions answered. Room ESCNE 1.603
- ACCOUNTING: LaVerne Funderburk, state contest director

9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Session 104: Accounting Basics. Review of Contest Procedures and a Step-by-Step Problem-Solving Demo of a Simple District Level Concept. Bring your laptop or electronic tablet to view digital handouts, your calculator, and a pencil. Please arrive early to connect your device wirelessly and be prepared to use your own service provider. Room ESCNE 2.507

10:45 a.m. – Noon

Session 105: Accounting Vigorous (But Fun) Workout. Step-by-step Problem-Solving Demo of the Worksheet with District and Regional Level Concepts. Bring your laptop or electronic tablet to view digital handouts, your calculator, and a pencil. Please arrive early to connect your device wirelessly and be prepared to use your own service provider. Room ESCNE 2.507

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS: Linda Tarrant, state contest director

9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Session 106: Zero to Invitational B. BYOC (computer) for a fun-filled workshop that is intended for those students and coaches that are just starting out. We will discuss the basics of how to get started in Computer Applications including what happens at a contest, what equipment you will need, how to practice and what to learn. The hands-on lesson will include how to create an Access table, a select query, an update query and a report. Room ESCNE 2.288

10:45 a.m. - noon

Session 107: Ready for District. BYOC (computer) This session will be all hands-on. We will continue learning about Access update queries and more options and some modification of reports in both design and layout view. Along the way contest strategies and shortcuts will be presented that might help you score just a few more points. Room ESCNE 2.288

12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Session 108: Forward to Region and State. BYOC (computer) This session is a deep dive into Microsoft Access and then into Excel. We'll be adding fields to queries and reports. We will create relationships and populate fields with lookup tables. We'll skip to Excel to create a pivot table and chart. Finally, you will learn how to merge data into a Word document and format them using format switches. Room ESCNE 2.288

CURRENT ISSUES & EVENTS: Dr. Bradley Wilson, state contest director

10:45 a.m. – Noon

Session 109: Keeping it Current. The Current Issues and Events contest is designed to help students stay informed about more than what Donald Trump is up to 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. Come discuss this evolution. Room ESCNE 2.108

12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Session 110: Preparing to Write an Essay. Come discuss and learn techniques and examples to write an essay that covers the topic and earning 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 ESCNE 2.108

ESSAY CONTESTS: Lisa Parker, UIL director of essay competitions

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Session 111: Essay Competitions: How to Write a Winning Paper. Interested in becoming a UIL state finalist by writing one essay? Come find out about two lesser known UIL contests that highlight extraordinary Texans and learn how to write a winning paper. Room ESCNE 1.603

JOURNALISM: Alyssa Boehringer, UIL director of journalism

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Session 112: Copy Editing 101. Come discuss the Copy Editing contest, everything from tips on teaching editing to taking and grading the test. Learn different levels of editing from checking grammar and style to assessing the legal and ethical implications of mass media contest. Bradley Wilson, state contest director. Room ESCNE 2.104

9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

- Session 113: Good News is Good News. This session will focus on the basics of how to write a news story from a UIL prompt. Alyssa Boehringer, UIL director of journalism. Room ESCNE 2.104
- 10:45 11:20 a.m.
 - Session 114: Feature Creature. We will focus on lead writing, story flow and what makes a good feature. Alyssa Boehringer, UIL director of journalism. Room ESCNE 2.104
- 11:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
 - Session 115: Getting a Head Start in Headline Writing. This session will focus on the criteria for writing solid headlines. It also will offer tips and have some time for practice. Kelsey Martin, McAllen Memorial HS. Room ESCNE 2.104

12:15 p.m. - 12:40 p.m.

Session 116: Editorial Writing. In this session, we will explore the structure for editorial writing and share tips and strategies for being successful in the contest. Alyssa Boehringer, UIL director of journalism. Room ESCNE 2.104

12:50 - 1:30 p.m.

Session 117: Coaches' Session. Alyssa Boehringer will share information on ILPC, upcoming events and deadlines, and a host of other journalism-related things. There also will be time for questions.
Room ESCNE 2.104

LITERARY CRITICISM: Mark Bernier, state contest director

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

- Session 118: The Absolute Basics. Including the Contest to students and coaches new to the challenge (introduction to poetry explication included). Room EENGR 1.268
- 10:45 a.m. Noon

Session 119: Poetry Explication for the Contest with Emphasis on the Sonnet. Room EENGR 1.268 12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Session 120: The 2023 Reading List and the Tie-Breaking Essay. Room EENGR 1.268

READY WRITING: Lisa Parker, UIL director of essay competitions

12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Session 121: Preparing for the Ready Writing Contest. We will review contest basics and explore strategies to guarantee success. This is designed for first-year competitors and beginning coaches. Room ESCNE 1.603

SOCIAL STUDIES: Andy Bates, state contest director

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Session 122: Preparing for the Social Studies Contest. A review of rules, contest format, information related to this year's topic, what type of questions to expect and resources that will prove useful. This session will also include specific ideas regarding effective ways to prepare for competition. Room ESCNE 2.108

12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Session 123: Preparing to Write an Essay. Come discuss and learn techniques and examples to write an essay that covers the topic and earning 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 ESCNE 2.108

SPELLING & VOCABULARY

10:45 a.m. – Noon

Session 124: Becoming Legitimate Logophilic Laureates. Strategies for Upping Your Spelling Game. Rigo Falcon, presenter, South Texas ISD World Scholars. Room ESCNE 2.102

12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Session 125: Spelling & Vocabulary Practice Test. Applying spelling strategies using 2022-23 Word List. Rigo Falcon, presenter, South Texas ISD World Scholars. Room ESCNE 2.102

STEM

STEM EVENTS: David Trussell, UIL director of STEM activities

STEM sessions will be held in the Science Building and in the Engineering Building.

CALCULATOR APPLICATIONS: Andy Zapata, state math consultant.

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Session 126: Beginning Calculator Applications Contest. Room ESCNE 1.288

CALCULATOR APPLICATIONS, CONTINUED: Andy Zapata, state math consultant.

10:45 a.m. – Noon

Session 127: Intermediate: General Discussion and Exponential Stated Problems. Room ESCNE 1.288

12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Session 128: Taking and Grading a Full Contest. Room ESCNE 1.288

COMPUTER SCIENCE: Dr. Shyamal Mitra, state contest advisor

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Session 129: Introduction to the Computer Science Contest. Includes rules, news, updates and a short practice test. Room EENGR 1.242

10:45 a.m. – Noon

Session 130: Computer Science Written Contest. Covers selected topics in Java and strategies for preparing for the written test. Room EENGR 1.242

12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Session 131: Computer Science Programming Contest. Covers selected topics on data structures and algorithms to prepare for the programming contest. Includes a discussion on online resources. Room EENGR 1.242

MATHEMATICS & NUMBER SENSE: Larry White, state contest director

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Session 132: Number Sense Contest. Guidelines, rules, resources, practice materials, etc. SAC 2022 Number Sense Test (take/grade) - NEW 10 min-80 question test with Q&A to discuss and answer questions. Room EENGR 1.300

10:45 a.m. – Noon

Session 133: Mathematics Contest. Rules, strategies and suggestions. SAC 2022 Mathematics Test – NEW 60 question test with Q&A to discuss. Room EENGR 1.300

12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Session 134: Number Sense and Mathematics Joint Q&A Session. Room EENGR 1.300

ROBOTICS: David Trussell, UIL director of STEM activities

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Session 135: Introduction to UIL Robotics, Part I. Robotics is now an official UIL activity. This session will provide details on program rules and structure, participation specifics, and more. UIL Robotics includes BEST Robotics and *FIRST* Robotics (FTC and FRC) competitions. We'll explore each of these programs, including first looks at this year's games for FTC and BEST. Room EENGR 1.262

10:45 a.m. – Noon

Session 136: Introduction to UIL Robotics, Part II. Continues from Part I. Room EENGR 1.262

SCIENCE: Dr. Michelle McGehee and Dr. David Bixler, state contest directors

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Session 137: Introduction to the UIL Science Contest. A contest overview including rules and practice questions. (For students and coaches) Room ESCNE 2.106

10:45 a.m. – Noon

Session 138: Science Contest Deep Dive. Deconstructing the Science test, with insights into how each section is developed. (For students and coaches) Room ESCNE 2.106

12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Session 139: UIL Science Roundtable. Discussion and Q&A. Bring your questions for the contest directors and ideas to help new coaches build a successful team. (For coaches) Room ESCNE 2.106

SPEECH & DEBATE & CONGRESS: Jana Riggins, UIL Director or speech, debate and congress. Speech sessions will be held in COBE, The College of Business and Entrepreneurship.

9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

- Session 200: Prose and Poetry: Starting at the Beginning. For novice competitors. Acquaints beginners with the UIL interpretation contest rules and procedures. Includes student demonstration. Johnny Trillayes, PSJA Southwest ECHS. Room COBE 110
- Session 201: Advanced Prose and Poetry. For varsity competitors and coaches. Weaving literature for your UIL program can be challenging. Participate in a hands-on group activity that demonstrates how to weave so each piece maintains its own voice. Bryan Honl and Jackie Zepada, PSJA North HS. Room COBE 120G
- Session 202: 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. Includes a demonstration speech. Ann Shofner, UIL consultant. Room COBE 118
- Session 203: The Basics of Lincoln Douglas Debate. For novice competitors. Familiarizes beginning students with value debate. Learn LD Debate format, speaker responsibilities, case construction, rebuttals. Session adapted to the needs of the audience. Antonio Valdez, PSJA Southwest ECHS. Room COBE 113
- Session 204: Advanced Lincoln Douglas Debate: A Deep Dive into Philosophers. A discussion focused on philosophers commonly used in LD Debate rounds. This session will aid debaters in becoming more knowledgeable about theories and the role of philosophical frameworks in LD. Dr. Rich Edwards, Baylor University, UIL Debate consultant. Room COBE 116
- Session 205: Getting Started in Cross-Examination Debate. For beginners. If you think CX policy debate is not for you, come listen to CX debate made user-friendly. Learn CX debate format, speaker responsibilities and basic terminology. Vanessa Chapa, McAllen HS. Room COBE 121
- Session 206: Advanced CX Debate: The Economics and Security and Emerging Technologies: Working with NATO on A.I, biotechnology and cybersecurity. Economists are skeptical of centralized bureaucracies managing new technologies. Should the USFB work with NATO? Greg Rehmke, Economic Thinking. Room COBE 111

10:45 - Noon

- Session 207: Oral Interpretation Choices! Choices! For novice and varsity competitors. Observe a live performance by a state champion followed by a discussion of all the choices that went into making the performances successful. Johnny Trillayes and Vera Alonzo, PSJA Southwest ECHS. Room COBE 110
- Session 208: Brainstorming New Categories. For experienced competitors and coaches. An interactive session where students and coaches get to share their ideas for categories for the 2023-24 competition season. Jana Riggins, UIL State Director, moderator. Room COBE 119
- Session 209: Extemporaneous Speaking: Strategies for Success. Learn strategies for Informative and Persuasive Speaking. Examine how to select appropriate organizational patterns, add depth to topic analysis, use effective transitions, and evaluate appropriate sources. Ann Shofner, UIL consultant. Room COBE 118

Session 210: Advanced Lincoln Douglas Debate: The Economics and Values of Amateur Status in Sports. Amateur sports continue to become more professional with soaring Name Image Likeness income opportunities. This session will analyze the UIL Fall LD Debate resolution and important research surrounding the topic area. Greg Rehmke, Economic Thinking. Room COBE 111

- Session 211: CX Debate Topic Analysis: The Affirmative. The author of the *Policy Debate Quarterly*, which is the first and most authoritative research released on the policy topic each year, will examine the affirmative position of this year's policy debate topic. Dr. Rich Edwards, Baylor University and UIL Debate consultant. Room COBE 116
- Session 212: An Introduction to Congress. If this is your first experience competing in Congress, come learn about this very exciting event we'll cover the rules, legislation, chamber roles and parliamentary procedure. Jose Alaniz, PSJA Southwest ECHS. Room COBE 120G
- Session 213: New Coaches: Where Do You Go from Here? As a new coach, navigating the world of speech and debate can seem daunting. This session will offer clarity and help you set reasonable goals initially while planning for future growth of the program. Vanessa Chapa, McAllen HS Room COBE 121

12:15 - 1:30 p.m.

- Session 214: Prose and Poetry Performance Hour. Performances by student competitors with oral critiques by experienced state meet judges/coaches. Adjudicators: Johnny Trillayes, PSJA Southwest ECHS; Bryan Honl, PSJA North HS; Jackie Zepada, PSJA North HS; and Edelmiro Cavasos, Harlingen South HS. Room COBE 110
- Session 215: Extemporaneous Speaking and an Understanding of Economics. Economic principles to help students frame domestic and international extemporaneous speaking speeches. Greg Rehmke, Economic Thinking. Room COBE 111
- Session 216: CX Debate Topic Analysis: The Negative. The author of the *Policy Debate Quarterly*, which is 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 COBE 116
- Session 217: Congress: Winning Strategies. For novice and varsity competitors. Learn techniques for elevating your competitiveness in the congressional chamber and the keys to success. Ann Shofner, UIL consultant. Room COBE 118
- Session 218: Coaching the Generation Z Student. This session takes a fascinating look at the uniqueness of Generation Z and examines how to coach the current competitor effectively. Jana Riggins, UIL State Director. Room COBE 119

THEATRE, DESIGN AND FILM

THEATRE, DESIGN AND FILM: Paula Rodriguez, UIL director of theatre All theatre sessions will take place at the LIBERAL ARTS BUILDING SOUTH (ELABS).

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

- Session 300: Let's Start from the Very Beginning: UIL One Act Play Rules, Planning, Updates and Questions! For ALL OAP Directors. Paula Rodriguez, UIL state theatre director. ROOM ELABS 255
- **Session 301:** The Basics: What is the Theatrical Design Contest? This Session is for those looking to enter the contest for the first time or who would like a refresher on the expectations. Because the challenge is different every year, it is important to update as you are starting 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. For students and teachers. Rachael Gomez, state contest director. ROOM ELABS 351
- Session 302: Getting Started with the UIL Film Festival. Are you new to UIL Film? 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." For students and teachers. Heidi Whitus, UIL Film Contest Consultant, North East School of the Arts. ROOM ELABS 254
- Session 303: Costume Crafts REALLY No Budget. Jenny Saxton-Rodriguez, UTRGV Faculty. 15 students max. ROOM ELABS 115 (Costume Shop)
- Session 304: Voice and Movement warm-ups. A participatory workshop that will focus on vocal and physical preparation for rehearsal and performance. Savannah Mares, UTRGV Faculty. ROOM ELABS 107 (Costume Shop)
- Session 305: Film Editing. The basics of editing for film will be shared. Armando Ibanez, UTRGV Faculty. ROOM ELABS 142

10:45 a.m. - Noon

- Session 306: Contest Managing and Adjudicator Session. For students and teachers. An AMA (*Ask Me Anything*) Session with an experienced OAP judge and contest manager. Joel Garza and Brian Warren, UT-RGV Faculty and TTAO. ROOM ELABS 303
- Session 307: Theatrical Design Contest- The Prompt. Our contest this year is based on the play FRANKENSTEIN, from the novel by Mary Shelley, in a new adaptation by Dorothy Louise. 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. For students and teachers. Rachael Gomez, state contest director. ROOM ELABS 351
- Session 308: Film Technology for All Budgets. Not sure if you can afford to produce films for the UIL Film Festival? You might be surprised. Attend this session to see what equipment you need, with specific gear package ideas for low, middle and high budget programs." For students and teachers. Heidi Whitus, UIL Film Contest Consultant, North East School of the Arts. ROOM ELABS 254
- Session 309: Stage Combat Live and in Person. This workshop is limited to 20 participants. Students should wear comfortable clothing. Be prepared to observe and participate. Peter Mikolasky, UTRGV Faculty. ROOM ELABS 107
- Session 310: Scriptwriting workshop. This session in for all interested storytellers and filmmakers. David Carren. ROOM ELABS 142
- Session 311: TEAM and Character-Building Games. Warmups, Ensemble building, and building characters through physical movement/choices. Hands on character-building activities

rooted in physical movement. Active participation required. Jacqueline Zepeda and Bryan Honl, PSJA North HS. **ROOM ELABS 255**

- Session 312: UTRGV Theatre Walking Tour. Tour the facilities and your chance to ask questions of the theatre program at UT-RGV. Meet in Theatre Lobby (Jeffers) Andres Rodriguez, Brianna A, and Scott Johnson, Justin Vasquez
- Session 321: Theatrical Make-up. Ryan Moore, UTRGV Faculty. Room ELABS 110 (dressing room)
- 12:15 p.m. 1:30 p.m.
 - Session 313: Theatrical Design LIVE! This is a hands-on workshop that will give participants the opportunity to create on the spot dynamic designs based on specific prompts. Bring your creativity and your collaborative spirit and see what magic can happen when you harness the elements of design. Rachael Gomez, state contest director. ROOM ELABS 351
 - Session 314: Film Contest: "The Reverse Storyboard". Participants will watch and break down a short scene and then sketch storyboard frames for each shot. We will discuss the types of film shots and introduce a "viewfinder" app to aspiring filmmakers. Participatory session. Storyboard frames provided. Bring your pencils! For students and teachers. Heidi Whitus, UIL Film Contest Consultant. ROOM ELABS 254
 - Session 315: Stage Combat Live and in Person. This workshop is limited to 20 participants. Students should wear comfortable clothing. Be prepared to observe and participate. Peter Mikolasky, UTRGV Faculty. ROOM ELABS 107
 - Session 316: Theatrical Make-up-Ryan Moore. UTRGV Faculty. ROOM ELABS 110 (Dressing room)
 - Session 317: Costuming- Introduction to Pattern Building. A hands-on costume/pattern making workshop. Jenny Saxton-Rodriguez, UTRGV Faculty. ROOM ELABS 115 (Costume Shop)
 - Session 318: Finding the MEAT: Documentary Filmmaking! During this session, coaches and students will gain a better understanding of how to tell a 7-minute documentative story. Participants will become familiar with technology as well as theory to enhance their documentary cinematic ventures. Charlie Palacios-PSJA Southwest Early College HS ROOM ELABS 303
 - Session 319: Get your Character's GOTE! Get what you want from the other character using active tactics that are fun to play! This participatory workshop uses lessons from *Acting One* by Robert Cohen. Paula Rodriguez, UIL state theatre director ROOM ELABS 255
 - Session 320: Scriptwriting Workshop. This session is for all interested storytellers and filmmakers. David Carren. ROOM ELABS 142