Extemporaneous Speaking

Extemporaneous Speaking Online – What Should You Expect

The Mean Green Comet Extemporaneous Speaking Division has, since the beginning, been based on the values of individualized feedback, instruction delivered by expert coaches, and relational connection between campers. While these times are strange and different, some things will remain the same, including our dedication to these values. We are confident that this summer, we will bring the Mean Green Comet Extemporaneous Speaking camp experience to you digitally in a way that is consistent with what has always been most important to us.

Using online platforming, these specific features of our camp will stay the same this summer:

• Campers will still be placed in labs to allow for differentiated instruction and individualized feedback.
• All extemp campers will have access to all extemp staff through online office hours.
• Many of our formats will be familiar – we will still have lectures, question and answer sessions, one-on-one coaching sessions, small group activities, and breakout groups.
• Group work, relationship building, and cooperation between campers will emphasized and facilitated by staffers. Camp is not camp without networking!

We also realize that this year, some things will need to change:

• Synchronous and asynchronous learning – this year the Extemporaneous Speaking division will feature opportunities for students to learn both asynchronously (online at their own convenience), and synchronously (everyone learning online together). For example - there may be times when, due to health or technology issues, a camper will need to re-watch a lecture, or work through an activity again at their own pace. Camp staff are aware of this, and will design content and activities to account for the diverse needs of campers.
• Critiques for speeches – This year, campers will have the ability to record practice speeches and the critiques given by lab leaders of those speeches. This will allow students to revisit their performances and critiques, helping them to formulate concrete, actionable “next steps” from coaching sessions.
• Online recreation activities – Part of the experience at any extemporaneous speaking camp is having fun. Even though camp will take place online, camp staff will keep this in mind while we are planning our activities!

Our goal at Mean Green Comet is to have the country’s finest weeklong extemporaneous speaking camp – one that that prepares extempers for local, state, and even national success in a fraction of the time of longer camps. And even though we are now moving online, we will make good on that promise.

Extemp Daily Schedule 2020

Download the Daily Schedule (PDF)
Sample Online Daily Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session/Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:30 PM</td>
<td>Lecture - Substructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td>Camp Wide Practice Round</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 PM</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:45 PM</td>
<td>Labs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:45 PM</td>
<td>Office Hours (optional)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>End of Daily Activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Director's Statement

The extemporaneous speaking camp is designed to build the skills necessary to excel in extemporaneous speaking events and other individual events. The Mean Green Comet Debate Institute focuses on building speaking and research skills while building a solid base of presentation skills that judges expect. Lectures and speaking activities are designed to immerse students in the many common topic areas. The use of guided symposiums emphasizes the importance of practice, strategy and process. At the end of the session students will be ready to prep multiple topic areas and have the confidence to give speeches on topics that they might not be familiar with.
Division Director

Neal White

Neal White is returning to the Mean Green Comet Extemporaneous Speaking camp for a third time, this time as the Extemp Division Director! Neal has been a full-time educator teaching Speech & Debate for five years and has had a hand in Speech & Debate education for nine. In extemporaneous speaking, he has coached NSDA national finalists, TFA State champions, Capital City Round Robin exhibition round participants, MBA Round Robin invitees, and UIL State finalists. Neal likes rock climbing, vinyl records, and essential oils...can you tell that he grew up in Austin? Additionally, he is definitely a dog person, not a cat person. He is married and is the proud owner of a wonderful red Beta fish named Rex.

Division Staff

Brandon Fisher

Brandon has been involved in the speech and debate community for the last 13 years as both a competitor and a coach. He has experience with programs both big and small and has coached students on the Colorado, Texas, and National circuits to state and national successes in all speech and debate events. He is currently the head coach at Vines High School in Plano, Texas, where in his second year as the head coach, he helped his students to quadruple the team's overall success rate from the year prior. Brandon is passionate about speech and debate, and is excited to be a part of the Mean Green Comet staff this year!

Meg Parker Wilson

Graduated from Southwest Baptist University and Los Angeles Film Studies Center with a B.A. in Speech Communications and Theater and is a member of Pi Kappa Delta. She was a competitor in NSDA for four years and two time national qualifier and Missouri State Champion. She competed in both I.E.s as well as PF and CX. She is the Director of Communication Arts for Prestonwood Christian academy and has been coaching for eight years. She loves this sport and guiding students in their path to making a difference in this world.
Guest Speakers

Jacqueline Wei
NSDA National Champion, Domestic Extemp, 2018 and 2019

Jacqueline Wei is a former competitor in extemporaneous speaking from Plano West and graduated in 2019. She is the 2018 and 2019 NSDA national champion in USX, the 2018 TFA state champion in USX, the 2019 UIL State champion in Persuasive Extemporaneous Speaking, the 2019 MBA Round Robin champion and the 2019 Extemporaneous TOC champion.

Jason Warren

Jason competed both in high school and college in limited prep and public address. He is a two-time collegiate national champion in extemporaneous speaking and six-time finalist in limited prep, as well as a top-five individual sweepstakes speaker. In high school, Jason was an NSDA national finalist as well as a TFA and UIL state champion. Jason coached multiple national champions during his time at UT Austin, George Mason University, and the Parish Episcopal School. Jason now currently works as the social studies manager for an education software company.

Arel Rende

Arel first competed at Booker T. Washington High School in Tulsa, OK, where he won two United States Extemporaneous Speaking national championships at the NSDA National Tournament. He went on to compete on the individual events team at The University of Texas at Austin, where he helped the Longhorns win three consecutive AFA Team Championships in addition to winning two more national championships in Extemporaneous Speaking at the NFA National Tournament. Arel currently lives in Washington, DC and works in finance.
Cheryl Potts

A 30-year veteran coach of speech and debate. Her students have been successful at the Uil State level, the TFA state level, the TOC, the MBA Extemp Round Robin, and the NSDA National tournament level. She co-coached teams to the TFA State Championship fourteen times. She was inducted into the TFA Hall of Fame and will be inducted into the NSDA Hall of Fame in June 2020.

Enroll Now

Click Here to Enroll

MGCDI enrollment is open! Follow the link above to reserve your spot in our 2020 summer program. The final deadline for all registration is June 22, 2020.