Enrollment for the 2021 Mean Green Comet is now open!

Click Here to Enroll

MGCDI enrollment is open! Follow the link above to reserve your spot in our 2021 summer program. The final deadline for all registration is June 22, 2021.

Summer 2021 Camp

The University of Texas at Dallas and the University of North Texas are excited to announce the dates, prices, and staff for the 2021 Mean Green Comet Debate Institute. With close coordination and consultation with the University of Texas at Dallas and local health officials, the 2021 MGC will be ONLINE. We were hopeful for a return to in-person instruction, but believe an online camp is best for students, instructors and the University. The Mean Green Comet Debate Institute brings together the North Texas region's largest debate programs and most established debate camps to offer the very best in debate education. The Mean Green Comet Debate Institute offers the following:

Exceptional Staff - Over the last 20 years UTD and UNT have provided students with exceptional and award-winning staff by bringing together some of the best strategic thinkers and educators from the high school and college debate communities.

Affordable Pricing - We believe debate camp should be accessible to everyone and as such work to offer affordable opportunities for anyone wishing to attend. No other debate institute offers more for the price. Our sessions range from $750.00 - $1,200.00, offering affordable tuition options for every student.
Student to Staff Ratio – Unlike other summer debate camps that have 30 to 40 students in a classroom, with 2 instructors, the Mean Green Comet Debate Institute guarantees a 10 to 1 student to staff ratio. Smaller student to staff ratios allow all students more individual instruction with our nationally recognized staff.

Ideal Location - The Mean Green Comet Debate Institute is held on the Richardson campus of the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD). UTD offers incredible and modern teaching, living and dining facilities and is conveniently located in the Dallas suburbs, ideal for commuter students.

Financial Aid - The Mean Green Comet Debate Institute provides need-based financial assistance to students interested in attending the Institute. Over $100,000 of need-based financial assistance was awarded to students for the 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 institutes.

Scholarships – The MGC offers two scholarships – The Kandi King Scholars and the Jerrell Braden Memorial Scholarship. The Kandi King Scholars Scholarship is available to any student applying to any division of the Mean Green Comet Debate Institute. The Jerrell Braden Scholarship is a full ride scholarship available for a student(s) who is interested in attending the Scholars policy debate camp. Visit the Scholarships page for more information.

Why attend the 2021 Mean Green Comet Debate Institute?

The Mean Green Comet staff working diligently with the newest educational platforms to make their award-winning curriculum available to students online. Each division leader is working with their staff to best tailor their curriculum to students. You can read more about how each division is approaching teaching on their division homepage. Between now and the beginning of camp our staff will be updating and perfecting their curriculum for an online platform. Each division will provide the following learning opportunities as part of their curriculum:

Topic and Concept Lectures - Live daily lectures in each division as well as live crossover lectures from other award-winning division staff. Live lectures provide the students an opportunity to ask questions and interact with the staff. Students will also have access to recorded lectures that provide students with a “On Demand” learning library.

Breakout Session – Live, interactive breakout sessions allow students to engage staff in a classroom environment of no more than 10:1 student to staff ratio. This allows students to work with staff members at their own pace and provides time for follow-up discussions. Additionally, the small breakout session allows students to engage in activities and drill that use the concepts that were taught during lecture.

Practice Speeches / Debate Rounds – Students will have debates with other students using Microsoft Teams. This gives students the opportunity to record their speeches and send them to staff members for suggestions and critique. Each division will use a mixture of live and recorded practice speeches and performances.

Lab Session – Lectures and lab sessions will occur collaboratively and be live streamed to students.
attending virtually. Students attending online will be able to interact with both the staff and other students. The MGC will be utilizing the award-winning Blackboard eLearning platform which allows both students attending in-person and online to have full access to the instruction they need, in their hands, and wherever they are. With fully modern voice and video capabilities, the instructors and the students can fully participate in the virtual classroom.

Office Hours – Students will continue to have the opportunity to work one on one with the staff during evening office hours. Office hours give the students a change to discuss concepts with a staff member and additional time for more drills/practice.

The MGC ONLINE Platform

In summer 2020, the Mean Green Comet designed and implemented an ONLINE debate camp to provide students a safe, fun, and exciting place for students to learn and grow. Due to the overwhelming success of the program, we are excited to offer students with an online camp for summer 2021. The same instructors and their unique curriculum that are working in-person at the camp will also be available for students who chose the online platform. Students who chose the online option will interact daily with both staff members and other students. Students working online will have the same access to lab sessions, office hours, lecture and practice debates that students who attend the camp in-person. We have added new resources to help students and parents feel comfortable with the new online learning environment.

While online instruction requires adjustments in how students engage with staff members and other students, the MGC’s staff and outstanding on-line and eLearning platforms uniquely position the MGC to be a leader in on-line debate education. The Mean Green Comet is leveraging our excellent staff of educators, fluent in the best online teaching technologies to ensure the excellence you expect from the Mean Green Comet basics that will not be changed.

Affordable Pricing – Our online sessions range from $600.00 - $1,200.00, offering affordable tuition options for every student.

Outstanding Curriculum – Instruction will still follow our model of lectures, small group breakout sessions, individual coaching sessions and office hours and practice debates/performances. Students will still collaborate with each other using Blackboard virtual classrooms for labs and still debate against one another using Microsoft Teams.

Student to Staff Ratio – The online platform will still have students organized into labs and they will have access to all the award-winning educators on staff. Unlike other summer debate camps that have 30 to 40 students in a classroom, with 2 instructors, the Mean Green Comet Debate Institute guarantees a 10 to 1 student to staff ratio that is especially important as students learn to navigate the new, on-line debate environment they face in 2020 and beyond. Smaller student to staff ratios allows students more individual instruction with our nationally recognized staff.

Exclusive and dedicated online technical support – The MGC is excited to announce Brad Skiles as our Online Education Director. Brad has worked in information technology in higher education for
nearly 25 years. As an adjunct professor of communication, as well as data architecture, he has nearly 30 years of teaching experience, with 10 of those years teaching in online or hybrid environments. *Brad and his team will offer webinars for our parents and students to help everyone get the most out of the stat-of-the-art digital resources available to MGC students.* Available to all MGC students and families will be on-demand technical assistance so students focus on learning instead of sorting out technical issues before and during the camp sessions.

### Pricing

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