2019-2020 SECONDARY

Academic Enrichment Programs

Fall (SEP - DEC)
Spring (JAN - APR)
Summer (MAY - AUG)

LESSONS START ON SEP 5 (THU)

Secondary Courses

• Academic Writing
• Research, Rhetoric, Analysis, and Problem Solving
• Public Speaking and Debate
• College Writing
• Writing, Discussion, and Thinking

US/UK/HK School Admissions
Please contact us to schedule an appointment or to receive more information.

For enrollment or more information, Contact Us Now.

info@capstoneprep.com www.capstoneprep.com
Secondary Center: 2/F, One Hysan Avenue, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong 2893 6060

Capstone
The Academic Writing I course introduces students to the fundamental genre conventions necessary to write effectively within the persuasive, expository, descriptive, and fiction genres. Simultaneously, students are given ample reading, writing, and speaking practice to improve the fluency of their English. Through careful discussion of various texts, students build their vocabulary and reading comprehension skills while being exposed to strong models of effective writing. Through this, students can begin to improve their own work, bolstered by targeted teacher feedback. Students’ practice of writing conventions will be supplemented with vocabulary building worksheets and relevant grammar exercises with the expectation that they will use what they have learned in their writing in class, as well as in homework assignments.

Course highlights:
- Appropriately-paced lessons to simultaneously build English language as well as expose students to the various writing genre expectations
- Relaxed classroom environment designed to encourage discussion and instill self-confidence in students

Perfect for students who:
- Struggle to use English to accurately express their ideas
- Wish to strengthen their reading comprehension
- Wish to improve their organization abilities when writing formal essays
- Struggle with creative writing and would like more practice

After the course, students will be better able to:
- Use English more accurately to write and speak fluently
- Read with increased speed and comprehension
- Organize their ideas in a clear and effective 5-paragraph essay
- Draw on several descriptive techniques accurately to paint a picture

Grade 7-9 Academic Writing I

Course Code | Start Date | Day | Time
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01AWSS1901 | 10-Sep | Tuesday | 4:30pm - 6:30pm
01AWSS1902 | 11-Sep | Wednesday | 4:30pm - 6:30pm
01AWSS1903 | 11-Sep | Thursday | 4:30pm - 6:30pm
01AWSS1904 | 6-Sep | Friday | 4:30pm - 6:30pm
01AWSS1905 | 6-Sep | Friday | 6:30pm - 8:30pm
01AWSS1906 | 7-Sep | Saturday | 9:30am - 11:30am
01AWSS1907 | 7-Sep | Saturday | 11:30am - 1:30pm
01AWSS1908 | 7-Sep | Saturday | 2:30pm - 4:30pm
01AWSS1909 | 8-Sep | Sunday | 10:00am - 12:00nn

Application will be processed on a first-come-first-served basis. Course schedule and fees are subject to change without advance notice.
Grade 7-9 Academic Writing II

Our Academic Writing II program systematically teaches students how to succeed in the four main genres of writing that secondary students encounter at school: persuasive, descriptive, expository, and fiction. Students will develop the tools necessary to research and write essays that are well-organized, clear, and persuasive, and present engaging stories using descriptive techniques to create powerful written images. At this level, the main emphasis is on helping students to improve the organization of their writing and the language that they use. Students will be challenged with texts that require them to exercise their critical thinking and employ careful analysis to come to their conclusions. In addition to giving students the skills they need to master the four genres, lessons will emphasize the importance of effective planning, editing, and revising.

Course highlights:
- Exposure to different genres to strengthen students’ overall academic writing proficiency
- Activities and assignments that give students practice with all aspects of the writing process, including brainstorming, researching, drafting, revising, and editing

Perfect for students who:
- Have good ideas but struggle to organize these ideas in their writing
- Notice mainly visual details and use some limited descriptive techniques
- Understand research techniques but do not employ them consistently
- Make some vocabulary and grammar mistakes

After the course, students will be better able to:
- Organize their ideas in a clear and effective 5-paragraph essay
- Draw on several descriptive techniques accurately to paint a picture
- Build on their research efficiency and use their research findings effectively
- Notice and self-correct mistakes, and edit writing for clarity and efficacy

Duration: 2 hrs | Class Size: 6-8 | Lesson Fee: $980
The Academic Writing III course is aimed at students who already organize their writing clearly and are looking to improve their ideas and writing style. Classes cover persuasive, expository, narrative, descriptive writing skills, and teach students how to develop their tone and register, while also improving their vocabulary, syntax and imagery. With the fundamentals under their belt, students learn to add greater nuance and variety to their writing across all the four genres, concentrating on communicating their message in the most effective manner. Challenging reading material is used to enhance students' analytical skills and provide models for their writing, while guided discussion improves their critical thinking skills. Students will also refine their brainstorming, planning, drafting, editing, and proofreading habits through instruction and peer collaboration.

Course highlights:
- Exposure to different genres to strengthen students’ overall academic writing proficiency
- Challenging exercises and assignments designed to improve students’ ability to use complex and nuanced persuasive, expository and descriptive writing techniques

Perfect for students who:
- Have insightful ideas that are structured in a clear but limited way
- Use interesting descriptive techniques with elementary vocabulary
- Understand the writing process but do not employ it consistently
- Avoid mistakes and edit their writing for more effective prose

After the course, students will be better able to:
- Organize their insightful ideas in a creative manner and to the best effect
- Master descriptive techniques with imaginative vocabulary
- Employ the writing process consistently in all assignments
- Build on effective sentence structure and vivid vocabulary

Application will be processed on a first-come-first-served basis. Course schedule and fees are subject to change without advance notice.

### Course Schedule

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### Application Information
- **Secondary Center:** 2/F, One Hysan Avenue, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong
- **Website:** [www.capstoneprep.com](http://www.capstoneprep.com)
- **Email:** info@capstoneprep.com
- **Phone:** 852 2893 6060
- **Duration:** 2 hrs  
  **Class Size:** 6-8  
  **Lesson Fee:** $980

*Please check for availability before enrollment.*
Grade 7-9 Research, Rhetoric, Analysis, and Problem Solving I

The Research, Rhetoric, Analysis, and Problem Solving (RRAPS) I course introduces students to foundation-level critical thinking and presentation skills while also providing significant opportunities for them to improve their English language abilities. Through Capstone-created case studies and carefully adapted content from interesting sources such as TIME Magazine and the BBC, students will gain useful world knowledge and learn about current events in a relaxed and welcoming environment. At the same time, they will complete vocabulary building worksheets and relevant grammar exercises with the expectation that they will use what they have learned in the end-of-class speaking activity such as an individual speech or debate, as well as in homework assignments.

Course highlights:
- Appropriately-paced lessons to simultaneously build English language and critical thinking skills, in addition to world knowledge and current events awareness
- Relaxed classroom environment designed to encourage discussion and instill self-confidence in students

Perfect for students who:
- Struggle to use English to accurately express their ideas
- Wish to strengthen their reading comprehension
- Hope to improve their analytical, deductive, and creative thinking
- Wish to widen their world knowledge in a comfortable environment

After the course, students will be better able to:
- Use accurate English to write and speak persuasively
- Read with increased speed and comprehension
- Provide more detailed and thoughtful comments on academic topics
- More confidently discuss current events and academic disciplines

Duration: 2 hrs | Class Size: 6-8 | Lesson Fee: $980

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Application will be processed on a first-come-first-served basis. Course schedule and fees are subject to change without advance notice.
Grade 7-9 Research, Rhetoric, Analysis, and Problem Solving II

The Research, Rhetoric, Analysis, and Problem Solving (RRAPS) II course focuses on improving students’ analytical and presentation abilities in an interactive classroom environment, incorporating critical reading/media analysis, argument-formation, public speaking, and problem-solving. Throughout the year, we will use a variety of discussion and presentation formats such as debate, town hall meetings, and individual speeches to help students explore topics relevant to understanding the modern world, along with targeted practice of skills such as persuasive writing, public speaking, logic, and problem solving. Course content comes from a wide range of sources, including media outlets such as The Guardian, technical papers, and Capstone-created case studies. After processing, questioning, and analyzing complex information, students in this course are then expected to synthesize, critique, and present their thoughts on what they have learned using the aforementioned presentation styles and guided discussion.

Course highlights:
• Activities and assignments to help students build their critical thinking, logical reasoning argumentation, problem-solving, and public speaking skills
• Engaging, diverse, and relevant content taken from contemporary sources

Perfect for students who:
• Want to expand their knowledge of current events and real-world issues
• Have some good ideas but struggle to articulate these ideas
• Wish to strengthen their reading and argumentation skills
• Hope to broaden their approach to problem solving

After the course, students will be better able to:
• Understand political, economic, or cultural current events and historical issues
• Speak confidently, clearly, and convincingly in front of an audience
• Create logical arguments and analyze academic texts

Duration: 2 hrs | Class Size: 6-8 | Lesson Fee: $980

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info@capstoneprep.com  www.capstoneprep.com  852 2893 6060

Secondary Center: 2/F, One Hysan Avenue, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong
Grade 7-9 Research, Rhetoric, Analysis, and Problem Solving III

With content driven by contentious world events and complex hypothetical scenarios, the Research, Rhetoric, Analysis, and Problem Solving III course further develops students’ ability to think critically, decide quickly, and speak effectively. While speaking style is still critiqued, the primary focus of this course is to deliver advanced material for students to discuss while cultivating more advanced aspects of thinking such as logical progression, devil’s advocate considerations, optimal decision-making, and rhetorical strategies. In each class, students are introduced to an issue of either local, regional, or international importance or a fictitious scenario with numerous conflicting dilemmas and are guided by the instructor to explore the legal, economic, business, political, and/or moral ramifications of the event. Students who fully commit to this course will walk away with a wide-ranging critical thinking methodology that can be applied in both their current academic and future professional environments.

Course highlights:
- Practice with complex and nuanced critical thinking, argumentation, problem-solving, and public speaking skills
- Challenging, relevant, and interesting content taken from contemporary sources

Perfect for students who:
- Have a general understanding of many historical and current events, but with limited consideration of connections between and reasons for these situations
- Follow formulaic and basic argument structures
- Present confidently on prepared responses, yet with limited expression and risk-taking
- Utilize limited or informal solution-building and analysis methods despite a systematic approach to problem solving

After the course, students will be better able to:
- Understand connections between world issues, including stakeholders involved, their motivations, and the related interplay of politics, economics, and other relevant factors
- Build intricately structured arguments utilizing convincing evidence types, rhetorical strategies, and impact statements
- Speak confidently and persuasively given minimal preparation time and support
- Generate and defend unique and comprehensive solutions to complex issues

Duration: 2 hrs | Class Size: 6-8 | Lesson Fee: $980

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Effective public speaking has become an essential skill in today’s media-rich academic and entrepreneurial fields. Capstone’s program is designed to equip students with the necessary skills to thrive in this context, with the intent to ready them to engage their listeners with strong rhetoric and critical thinking. The program focuses on preparing students for different speaking environments, including debate. Students will consider how to appropriately address their audience and what medium to use considering the objective of their presentation. Additionally, students will practice their delivery through a variety of activities including ones used in theater training. Consistent debate practice will provide an avenue through which students can begin to prepare for future debate competition, should that suit their interest. Interested students must either have previous experience with the Capstone debating program or schedule an interview for admission.

Course highlights:
• Exposure to various techniques in theatre for effective delivery of speeches
• Fast-paced and challenging exercises with an emphasis on rhetorical strategies and research

Perfect for students who:
• Are looking to improve their confidence in speaking in front of an audience or improve their spontaneous logical reasoning skills
• Have thoughts and opinions about the world around them and are looking for an outlet to speak up and be heard

After the course, students will be better able to:
• Articulate ideas with confidence and poise on various issues and themes
• Apply the fundamentals of arguments and rebuttals in speeches as well as in a debating format
• Apply their skills in various classroom presentations

Duration: 2 hrs | Class Size: 6-8 | Lesson Fee: $980
Grade 7-12 Public Speaking and Debate II - Intermediate

Debaters attending the intermediate program have gained a firm handle on the parliamentary and 3-vs-3 formats and the essential skills of argumentation, rebuttal, modeling, and extension. This next step exposes them to a survey of ideas and issues that engage with their critical thinking and problem solving through debate rounds. Sessions move from skill-based learning to content-based practice sessions that also simulate the tournament environments that they may be part of in the near future. Debaters come out of the intermediate program grounded in the socio-political issues that the world faces with the discipline and confidence of a parliamentarian. Interested students must either have previous experience with the Capstone debating program or schedule an interview for admission.

Course highlights:
- Exposure to the British Parliamentary and World Schools debating formats - the most prestigious schools-level formats
- Fast-paced and challenging exercises with an emphasis on rhetorical strategies and research
- Exposure to geopolitics and current affairs

Perfect for students who:
- Wish to be members of their school’s debating clubs and are looking for avenues to train and improve with peers from around Hong Kong
- Are looking to get exposure to what the international world of debate and competition looks like
- Need a better understanding of global events and important contemporary issues

After the course, students will be better able to:
- Try out for their school debate teams
- Face confrontation and contrarian opinions with a critical mind and a disciplined approach both in debating and in everyday situations
- Build rapport with teammates and peer group members in work that involves research and collaboration

Duration: 2 hrs  |  Class Size: 6-8  |  Lesson Fee: $980

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Application will be processed on a first-come-first-served basis. Course schedule and fees are subject to change without advance notice.
Grade: 7-12 Public Speaking and Debate II+ - Upper Intermediate

This new debate level is designed for students who have a solid understanding of debate conventions within the parliamentary and 3-v-3 formats; however, these students are not entirely ready for competition-level training. The focus of this course will be to prepare students who are interested in entering the competitive realm of debate so that they are able to do so with confidence. Thus, the course will focus on extensive practice and drills. By studying salient contemporary issues and engaging in thought-provoking discussions that are then applied in an end-of-class debate activity, students will grow more comfortable with many types of debate motions. As a result, students will be ready to progress to learning more advanced strategy and developing more nuance in their style. Interested students must either have previous experience with the Capstone debating program or schedule an interview for admission.

Course highlights:
- Extensive practice within the British Parliamentary and World Schools debating formats - the most prestigious schools-level formats
- Fast-paced and challenging exercises with an emphasis on rhetorical strategies and research
- Weekly discussion and exploration of salient and controversial issues

Perfect for students who:
- Are members of their school’s debating clubs and are looking for avenues to train and improve with peers from around Hong Kong
- Want to eventually debate at the standard offered internationally and be adjudicated with preparation for competitions in mind
- Need to develop their repertoire of ideas, including the basics of economics, philosophy, political science, international relations, and more

After the course, students will be better able to:
- Participate confidently in competitions around Hong Kong as well as abroad
- Face confrontation and contrarian opinions with a critical mind and a disciplined approach both in debating and in everyday situations
- Build rapport with teammates and peer group members in work that involves research and collaboration

Course Code: 01PDUS1901
Start Date: 10-Sep
Day: Tuesday
Time: 4:30pm - 6:30pm

Course Code: 01PDUS1902
Start Date: 11-Sep
Day: Wednesday
Time: 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Course Code: 01PDUS1903
Start Date: 5-Sep
Day: Thursday
Time: 4:30pm - 6:30pm

Course Code: 01PDUS1904
Start Date: 6-Sep
Day: Friday
Time: 4:30pm - 6:30pm

Course Code: 01PDUS1905
Start Date: 7-Sep
Day: Saturday
Time: 11:30am - 1:30pm

Course Code: 01PDUS1906
Start Date: 7-Sep
Day: Saturday
Time: 4:30pm - 6:30pm

Duration: 2 hrs | Class Size: 6-8 | Lesson Fee: $980
Grade 7-12 Public Speaking and Debate III - Advanced

Capstone’s advanced debating program is now the most successful training course for debate and public speaking among school based or external offerings in Hong Kong. Capstone’s debaters have made it to the elimination rounds of the World Schools and World Individuals debating championships. Yearly, Capstone’s students win championships, reach finals’ series, and receive best speaker’s prizes at Hong Kong’s biggest debating events and at the most prestigious tournaments in the world. These have included the Harvard, Cambridge, Oxford, and Yale-World Scholars invitationals.

The international standards of Style, Substance, and Strategy become the guiding pillars of advanced Capstone debaters. Students promoted to this class have typically accumulated years of prior experience and have either competed at inter-school debating tournaments or deliver debating performances at a caliber that merits recommendation from a debating coach. Debaters regularly wrestle with the topics and issues that set trends in competitions globally and employ advanced strategies that are based off of the best practices from the World Championships. Many of Capstone’s advanced debating students rank among the best in the country and often represent their schools at top-shelf competitive speaking events. Debaters come out of the advanced program ready to test their mettle in Hong Kong, overseas, and in the college environments that they will soon be a part of. Interested students must either have previous experience with the Capstone debating program or schedule an interview for admission.

Course highlights:
- Exposure to advanced debating strategies
- Fast-paced and challenging exercises with an emphasis on rhetorical strategies and research

Perfect for students who:
- Represent their schools or are on their national teams and are looking for close, personalized feedback
- Want to eventually debate at the standard offered internationally and be adjudicated with preparation for competitions in mind
- Are studying the more subtle nuances of debating strategy (i.e. filtering, urgency/momentum, response-based extensions)
- Require higher-standard debating simulations based on the best practices of the world’s most prestigious debating tournaments

After the course, students will be better able to:
- Compete with confidence at the elimination round level and beyond at major debating competitions
- Score higher using the rubric of Style, Substance, and Strategy, hence improving their personal performances
- Engage with world-defining issues of our time and see their place in identifying and solving these problems as tomorrow’s leaders

Duration: 2 hrs | Class Size: 6-8 | Lesson Fee: $980

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advanced</th>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
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Grade 10-12 College Writing

This course will guide students through the important transition between high school and college-level writing. It is designed for students who already have a strong foundation in writing skills and are ready to tailor their writing for higher education. Students will develop and master techniques for longer research-driven essays from both the persuasive and expository genres, such as the Extended Essay required for the IB Diploma and other high school research papers. As is true in higher level learning, writing assignments will contain heavy elements of independent investigation and will demand initiative and an inquisitive approach from students as well as a significant amount of reading. Students will revise and workshop their essays with both the teacher and their peers, developing the habits of drafting and editing vital to success in university.

Course highlights:
- Rigorous writing assignments at the pre-university level, carefully supported by the writing process and feedback from the instructor
- Challenging readings followed by in-depth discussions that act as examples and inform student work

Perfect for students who:
- Understand basic writing conventions but do not always employ these guidelines and techniques in their own writing
- Are uncertain about how to approach long and complex writing assignments, and would like coaching on how to do this independently
- Are comfortable with complex texts but need further exposure and practice

After the course, students will be better able to:
- Express ideas fluently and according to the conventions and requisites of different genres
- Conduct independent, in-depth research for complex writing assignments, such as the Extended Essay
- Evaluate their own work and the work of peers for effectiveness
Grade 10-12 College Writing

Duration: 2 hrs | Class Size: 6-8 | Lesson Fee: $980

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Grade 10-12 Writing, Discussion, and Thinking

Designed to prepare students for both the academic rigor and discussion-driven learning environment of upper secondary school and the first years of universities and college. The focus is on presenting students with salient challenging topics and critical thinking frameworks to analyze them. This will be set in the context of a lively, discussion-driven academic course in which students will engage intellectually in a wide range of high-level reading material. Students will be expected and encouraged to actively raise questions, challenge opinions, and even lead discussions of their own. The culmination of each lesson is some form of presentation after which students receive immediate feedback from the instructor and their peers. Ultimately, students in this course develop all-around communication and thinking skills which help them excel in upper-secondary school and university classrooms.

Course highlights:
- Lively classroom discussions, activities, and assignments designed to improve students’ writing, speaking, and critical thinking skills
- Challenging and engaging content taken from current events, the humanities and social sciences

Perfect for students who:
- Present strong points but may lack clarity in verbal and written work
- Make general claims that are not supported by relevant, compelling evidence
- Need to develop more initiative and confidence to participate in class discussions

After the course, students will be better able to:
- Think about critical issues holistically and prepare in-depth analyses
- Articulate complex ideas using contextual evidence to anchor their arguments
- Steer class discussions and foster dialogue with peers

Duration: 2 hrs | Class Size: 6-8 | Lesson Fee: $980

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