

The Policy of Persuasion*

Vital Information

“The Policy of Persuasion” is a class that focuses on the theories of policy debate in conjunction with a classical persuasion foundation.

Day: Wednesday, weekly for Fall semester (There are two weeks “off” during the semester. See schedule for more details.)

Time: 9:30am – 12pm, with the exception of debate round week (9am-12pm)

Date: September 6 through November 15

Place: Downtown Greenville (place TBA)

Cost: \$230 per student; facility fee may apply[†]; discount for multiple student enrollment

Materials: TBA

The class will require some work to be submitted electronically, and both online and traditional research will be needed—so access to the Internet will need to be provided.[‡]

Debate box & file folders (more information will be given in class)

Class: For ages 14 and up (unless with older sibling or advanced 8th grader). Class size will be limited to 20 students.

(Additional online info)

I do have this class completely available through videos as of Spring 2021. If a student cannot come to class due to health concerns/exposure, I am now able to offer online support so your student will not get behind what is happening in person each week. Also, if your family is more comfortable with a primarily online experience, I should be able to accommodate that as well. Please contact me with more specific information about online instruction and how it can work for you.

[†] Depending on if there is a facility fee, that cost would be divided evenly among the student and club members using the space for the year.

[‡] There will also be extra credit opportunities (via tournament participation, either as a timer or as a debater) that will take additional time and effort, particularly on the Saturday(s) that regional practice tournament(s) is/are scheduled. ***Of course, as with any extra credit, it is optional.***

About the Teacher

Stephanielynn Būda was first introduced to debate in high school, where she competed in value debate through the National Forensics League. While in college, her debate experience shifted from value to policy debate. Stephanie graduated with her bachelor of arts in communication from Bob Jones University in 2005. After graduation, she decided to pursue a Master's degree in Performance Studies and became a teaching assistant. This first "real" experience in the classroom ignited her love for teaching. During her time as a TA, she began assistant coaching and traveling with the BJU Intercollegiate debate team. She graduated with her post-grad degree in 2007 and stayed at Bob Jones University as full-time faculty, during which she also acted as the faculty advisor for the BJU Debate Association. She has taught Public Speaking as an adjunct professor at Greenville Technical College, Limestone College, and Tri-County Tech. Fall 2023 begins her 18th year teaching; currently, Stephanie teaches high school courses in speech and debate within the homeschool community in Greenville and teaches at EspritGVL (a Charlotte Mason-inspired co-op in the Upstate). In addition, she has the privilege of being the coach of the Upstate Area Debate Club. Stephanie loves being married to her best friend, Brian, and together they love and teach their kiddos, Ellise, James, and Lydian.

About the Course

The Policy of Persuasion course is designed to teach your student the format and theories of policy debate in context with the classical approach to persuasion.

The act of persuasive speaking, especially through debate, has proven to have several benefits ranging from research skills, critical thinking, and reasoning... all which can promote academic excellence in other subjects. These skills are wonderful in and of themselves, but they become invaluable when they are combined with the Christian faith. The combination of those skills serve the Christian the best as they are used to practice 1 Peter 3:15-16...

- by learning to "honor Christ as holy" through our words
- by always "being prepared to anyone who asks... a reason for the hope that is in [us]"
- by giving those reasons "with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience"

The class itself will be taught according to the rules of The National Christian Forensics and Communications Association (www.ncfca.org), which "believes that formal speech and debate can provide a means for homeschooled students to learn and exercise analytical and oratorical skills, addressing life issues from a Biblical worldview in a manner that glorifies God."

The Policy of Persuasion semester course can be counted as ½ high school credit, if you choose to do so. Also, once a student completes The Policy of Persuasion debate course, he/she becomes eligible to participate in the Upstate Area Debate Club for additional credit. The Upstate Area Debate Club, through its participation in the NCFCA, is geared for "live" debate through practice rounds (in club) and competition (through tournaments). Students will get the most out of this course by continuing to practice what they learned in debate club, as it gives them the opportunity to put the knowledge they learned in class to use.

About Registration

Complete the registration form attached and mail now with your \$30 placeholder fee to secure a spot for your child in the class. The balance of \$200 will be due by August 1st. All fees are nonrefundable.

The Policy of Persuasion: Registration Form

Please fill out a separate form for each student you are registering. Mail form and check to the address below.

Student's name _____

Age _____ Birthdate ____/____/____ Grade in Fall 2021 _____

Student's email address _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Parents' names _____

Parents' email address _____

Parents' Cell Phone _____

Students and parents are asked to read all emails (and respond, if prompted) concerning the class throughout the semester.

Signed,

Student _____ Date _____

"We, the parent(s) of _____, assume full responsibility for any accident/ medical insurance needed to cover our child in the case of accidental injury, or the like, while our child is attending The Policy of Persuasion debate class. We will not hold the class or the facility at Mt. Airy Baptist Church in any manner for injury. Furthermore, I agree to read all emails concerning the The Policy of Persuasion course and to reply promptly when asked."
Signed,

Parent _____ Date _____

Parent _____ Date _____

Mail the completed form with your nonrefundable placeholder fee of \$30. The balance of \$200 will be due by August 1st. Refunds will not be issued at any time should your child decide to drop out of the class. You can use PayPal (essentiallyslcb@gmail.com; please use "friend or family" option) or send a check to:

Stephanie Büda, 1110 Willow Branch Dr., Simpsonville, SC 29680

The Policy of Persuasion: Fall 2022 schedule

9/6: Intro to debate & logic

9/13: Logic, continued; Evidence & Reasoning

9/20: **Week off** (Use this time to research our resolution, find good evidence, and beginning developing your debate files.)

9/27: Stocks*

10/4: Affirmative Case Writing

10/11: **Week off** (Use this time to create the best 1AC you can using the template given. Also, this would be a good time to start contacting someone who you feel would be a good partner for the rest of the semester.)

10/18: Affirmative Case Workshop

10/25: Negative Philosophy & Strategy; Flowing**

11/1: Speaking Responsibilities & Speech Delivery

11/8: What to Expect in a Round and How to Read Ballots; Q&A

11/15: Debate Rounds

(Class this week will start at 9am to get 2 debate rounds in by 12pm.)

(12/1: Debate notebooks due via online submission***)

* Any homework due prior to this week will no longer be available for grading.

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*** Notebooks, in their entirety, must be turned in by this date. Any homework due prior to this final class date will no longer be available for grading.