

Debate Training and Mock-Harvard College World Schools

The 2024 Harvard College World Schools Invitational is scheduled for March 22-24, 2024, at Harvard. This is one of the most prestigious high school debate tournaments in the world. Please [click here](#) to review the tournament details.

To prepare students for this tournament, Meritus Academy will host debate training and mock-Harvard College World Schools on March 13 and 14 (March Break), featuring both in-person and online formats. Organizing and judging the mock-Harvard College World Schools are Meritus Academy's debate instructors, including Rudi Lof and Brent Schmidt. Below is a short introduction to each of the instructors:

- **Rudi Lof**

Founder and President of the Toronto Debate Academy, Rudi transitioned from practicing law to coaching debate at Meritus Academy in 2011. In addition to coaching debate, Rudi also teaches law at York University.

Under Rudi's guidance, his students have won World Schools Debate Championships, Junior National Championships and several other regional championships. Since 2015, 16 of his students have qualified for Team Canada and competed in the World Schools Debating Championship (WSDC). They are: Dasha Metropolitansky, Alex Wu, Alykhan Jetha, Adythia Chakravarthy, Naomi Panovka, Angela Li, Max Rosen, Gaby Lin, Sarena McKellar, Angie Lei, Randy Chang, Michael Chen, Stellar Zhang, Maria Xu, Rally Lin, and Hao Ni.

- **Brent Schmidt**

Brent is the Debate Coach of Team Canada 2024. He has over a decade of coaching experience and has won prestigious international tournaments like HHIV, NAUDC, and WUDC. He's served on the adjudication team for Belgrade WUDC and has judged or coached at nearly every major high school and university event. With a focus on Canadian international debating, Brent has mentored students who've gone on to excel on national teams globally, nurturing some of the best high school and university debaters nationally and internationally.

There are many debate tournaments in Canada throughout the year, but very few events feature judges with capabilities and experiences like that of Rudi and Brent.

For students who will be participating at the Harvard World Schools tournament, this mock event provides invaluable preparation. For students who simply want to improve or gain more experience, this is also an excellent opportunity.

Each day will consist of 2-3 rounds of debate in World Schools format and invaluable feedback/suggestion for students' Harvard College tournament motion at the end. Students will have the exciting opportunity to be judged by Rudi, Brent, and other notable debate coaches.

Details regarding registration and event specifics are outlined below:

	Online	In-Person
Date	Wednesday, March 13, 2024	Thursday, March 14, 2024
Time	11:00 AM – 5:00 PM	1:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Location	Zoom	Meritus Academy (306 Consumers Rd. North York)
Fee	\$50 / person (non-refundable)	\$70 / person (non-refundable)
Requirements	Debate Level 4-6 and WSDC	Debate Level 4-6 and WSDC

Note:

- Both days will have identical content. **Please only register for one of the days.**
- Students are encouraged to form teams of three; however, Meritus Academy can assist in team formation if needed if you are joining as an individual.
- If you are joining as a team, all team members must register separately but you will need to indicate your team members' names during registration.
- Students are expected to prepare for the Harvard motion ahead of the event.
- The detailed schedule will be released closer to the event.
- The registration deadline is **Thursday, February 29, 2024**. Spots are limited. Register now!

If you are interested in any one of the tournaments, please [click here](#) to register.

Meritus Academy