

bethel forensics

Bethel University Speech and Debate

What we do, where we travel

- Bethel University's Forensics program is a comprehensive individual events and debate program. We participate in all individual events, Lincoln-Douglas and Parliamentary Debate, and Readers' Theater.
- Students can choose from between 16-25 different tournaments during the year. We travel across the Upper Midwest, but go outside of the region as well. We also attend the National Christian College Forensics Invitational, as well as other major tournaments including Novice Nationals, the National Parliamentary Debate Association Nationals, the National Invitational Events Tournament, and the American Readers' Theater Association tournament.

Successes

- 10 individual national championships in 2011-2012: 8 at the National Christian College Forensics Invitational, 2 at Novice Nationals.
- National Parliamentary Debate Association All-Americans in 2007 and 2009 (only two other schools have had more NPDA All-Americans).
- 2008 graduate received Fulbright Scholarship to teach in Poland
- Bethel's average team GPA for 2011-2012 was between 3.6 and 3.7.
- Bethel has advanced students to elimination rounds at parliamentary debate nationals more often than any other Minnesota school.
- Alumni of the Bethel program have gone on to careers in education, acting, law, business, and ministry. Alumni are also coaching forensics on the junior high and high school levels.

Program Budget and Scholarships

- Bethel's program is funded as an academic activity, housed in the Department of Communication Studies. Students pay no fees of any kind to attend tournaments.
- Bethel offers several renewable, non-need based scholarships of up to \$4,000 per year, with amounts based on past performance as well as potential for future performance. Incoming freshmen and transfer students are eligible for scholarships.

Why Bethel?

- Bethel is consistently ranked in the top-20 in the Midwest among regional universities, including 17th in 2011.
- Bethel significantly outperforms Minnesota and other peer institutions in the National Survey of Student Engagement.

Why Bethel Forensics?

- Bethel operates within a distinctly evangelical Christian framework, equipping women and men for culturally sensitive leadership, scholarship, and service around the world.
- We work on striking a balance between competitive success, the educational value of forensics, and student satisfaction.
- We exist within the Christian mission of Bethel. We take very seriously the notion that each student is on our team for a reason; our goal is to work with the student to identify that reason and to help in her or his development as both a speaker and a person.
- Students can enroll in forensics for credit (1 credit per semester, repeatable 4 times)

Contact Information

To find out more about Bethel Forensics, contact:

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The team's website can be found at: <http://comm.bethel.edu/forensics/>.