



Truman Forensics Union
Department of Communication
Barnett Hall, 1212
Kirksville, MO 63501

Greetings from the Truman Forensics Union!

We would first like to say congratulations on your admission to Truman State! We greatly look forward to seeing you on campus in the fall! We know this is an exciting time for you as you prepare for college, and we would like to help facilitate this process as much as possible. We are writing to you today because you have expressed potential interest in participating on the Truman Forensics team. In the following letter, we explain a little more about us and what we do, and tell you about the exciting scholarship opportunity we offer prospective team members! We hope your transition here is smooth and you are able to get the most out of your TSU experience! ☺

The forensics team at Truman State is a competitive speech and debate team. Our team's inception dates back to the 1800s, and since then, we have continued to build a legacy of strong debaters and public speakers! We traditionally have multiple team members break into final rounds at our state tournament (MAFA) each year in February, and usually have at least a few students break into outrounds on the national level as well at the end of the year. We offer students the opportunity to participate in all eleven individual event (IE) categories across the three speaking genres (Public Address, Interpretation, & Limited Preparation) recognized by the national collegiate forensics associations, in addition to NFA-Lincoln-Douglas (LD) debate. We also sometimes supplement tournament entries with students in other forms of debate, such as National Parliamentary Debate (NPDA) and International Public Debate (IPDA), and in experimental events such as Improv Pairs and Broadcast Journalism, when offered.

Throughout the competition season (September to April), team members work together with our knowledgeable, award-winning coaches to construct engaging presentations and develop strategic argumentation techniques. We typically compete at about 10 to 12 tournaments per season, and while we try to go to as many in-person tournaments as possible, the current circumstances surrounding the pandemic have led us to consider more virtual tournament opportunities over the past two years. We are hopeful to have more chances for in-person competitions next year!

As we are looking to grow our team and give more students the experience of participating in collegiate forensics, we encourage you to contact us if you are interested! We offer multiple opportunities for students to earn course credit or scholarship money for participating on the team! Below, you will find a scholarship application and information about our tryout day in March. While scholarships are competitive, we still welcome interested students to the team—please, though, still complete and send in an application so we are aware of your interest and can keep in contact with you! We hope to hear from you soon!

Sincerely,

Dr. Craig Hennigan (he/him)
Director of Forensics
chennigan@truman.edu

Ben Davis, M.A. (he/him)
Assistant Director of Forensics
bdavis@truman.edu

Forensic Service Scholarship Application Form | 2022

Service/Talent Scholarship and/or Robert Newman Debate Scholarship Application Truman State University Forensics

The Truman Forensics scholarship tryout day will be hosted in-person on **Saturday, March 26th, 2022** on the Truman State University campus.

Service/Talent Scholarships in Forensics are awarded in variable amounts, in consultation with the Office of Admissions at Truman State University. In order to be eligible for these scholarships, students must exhibit demonstrable talent in interscholastic speech and debate activities, outstanding academic potential as a university student, and dedication to a competitive career in intercollegiate forensics.

Students interested in being considered for these scholarships should submit the following materials prior (with one exception; see Letter of Recommendation) to **Friday, March 4th at 5:00pm**.

- **Application Form** — See the form provided below.
- **Letter of Interest** — A letter explaining why you wish to continue your forensics career with Truman Forensics.
- **Competitive Resume** — A resume of awards/honors won in speech, debate, theatre, mock trial, model UN, or similar speaking and performance related activities.
- **Letter of Recommendation** — A letter from your high school forensic coach/adviser speaking to your background, work ethic, successes, and other relevant qualities/information related to forensics. If you are not currently competing in a forensic program, a letter from a language arts or social studies instructor should be submitted. *Letters of recommendation may be sent later by your letter writer, but must still be received no later than Friday, March 11th at 5:00pm.*

Invitations to tryout day based on these materials will be sent out via email no later than **Wednesday, March 16th at 5:00pm**.

Your application materials may be sent by US mail or as electronic attachments to an e-mail sent to chennigan@truman.edu. They can also be faxed to 660-785-7101. Teachers or coaches are to direct their letters to either address independently of your application materials.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the submission of your application, please feel free to contact us!

US MAIL ADDRESS: Craig Hennigan, Director of Forensics
 Department of Communication
 Truman State University
 100 E. Normal Ave.
 Kirksville, MO 63501

FAX: 660-785-7101

EMAIL: chennigan@truman.edu

***May not be used to audition if the partner is not trying out as well.*

Questions may be addressed to Craig Hennigan at chennigan@truman.edu or 586-838-8399.

Forensic Service Scholarship Application Form | 2022

Personal Information

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Academic Information

Anticipated Major(s) & Minor(s): _____

Tryout Information

The following information will help us plan your participation in the scholarship tryout process. Submitting this application form means you are interested in attending the tryouts if invited.

*While attendance is **strongly recommended** for scholarship consideration, if significant conflicts exist, a substitute tryout process may be arranged in coordination with the Truman Forensics directors. Please contact Craig Hennigan if this is the case (see below).*

Would your parent(s)/guardian(s) be accompanying you to tryouts? Yes No

Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s) if applicable: _____

For the purposes of arranging meals, please note any dietary needs for you or family:

Please indicate the event(s) you would be try out with. Students have the option of trying out in one speech event, a policy style 1AC and rebuttal, or both.

Extemporaneous Speaking Dramatic Interpretation Storytelling

Original Oratory/Persuasion Broadcasting/Radio Prose

Informative/Expository Speaking Impromptu Speaking Poetry

Humorous Interpretation After-Dinner/SOS Duo**

Other: _____

NFA-LD Debate

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