



# BESPOKE EDUCATION

## Academic Enrichment and Test Prep *Summer 2021 Course Catalog*

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**Note:** Classes must reach a minimum enrollment of 4 to run as planned.

We are happy to arrange a **custom class** to meet your student's needs.  
Please contact Peregrine Heard ([pheard@bespokeeducation.com](mailto:pheard@bespokeeducation.com)) to discuss.

## Academic Enrichment Courses

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### Grammar Bootcamp

July 6 - August 5  
TTh, 5:00 - 6:30 PM  
Remote, via Zoom

Open to: Rising 9th - 12th graders

Total hours: 15  
Fee: \$850

Grammar is a tricky business, and most of us shy away from the stress of subject-verb agreement and the tedious rules of punctuation. Who needs apostrophes anyway? But grammar isn't just decorative; it's technical. Form is inseparable from function, and a mastery of grammar allows us to communicate our ideas clearly, efficiently, and unambiguously. A shaky grasp of mechanics can lead to confusion (an entire lawsuit once hinged on the placement of a single comma!) and undermines a writer's confidence, meaning we never quite figure out the difference between *bad* and *badly*, *fewer* and *less*, or where those pesky quotation marks really go.

Students will learn how to spot and fix grammatical errors while proofreading their own work, develop methods to improve syntax, investigate informal discourse and trending language, and identify ways to strengthen prose without damaging an author's voice.

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Instructor: Adrienne Bernhard

*Adrienne graduated with departmental honors from Northwestern University, and went on to pursue a Masters degree in American literature at Yale University. Adrienne completed a one-year fellowship at Oxford, and also holds a second Masters degree in Education from Columbia University Teachers College. She has published commentary on corporate social responsibility and articles in numerous literary journals and magazines, including the Atlantic, The Wall Street Journal, Smithsonian, the BBC, and other media outlets. Adrienne is also a freelance editor, web content producer, and, most recently, assistant to the Deputy Editor at The New Yorker. She specializes in essay writing, study skills and organizational support, practical rhetoric and French, as well as test prep for the ISEE, SSAT, SHSAT, SAT, ACT, and GRE exams.*

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**Reading Our City: Comprehending  
20th c. Texts for the SAT and ACT**

July 6 - July 15

TTh, 5:00 - 6:30 PM

Remote, via Zoom

Open to: Rising 11th - 12th graders

Total hours: 6

Fee: \$395

The reading sections of the SAT and ACT often present students with a longer trajectory to mastery: reading comprehension takes time, interest, and focus. Historical documents and period literature require even more effort from test-takers who are encountering unfamiliar tone and vocabulary under time pressure. This course will help rising juniors and seniors to develop reading comprehension skills that can be applied to either test, with a focus on the works of F. Scott Fitzgerald and Edith Wharton. We will explore these early twentieth-century texts through the lens of New York City, empowering students to bring their knowledge of the city to bear on literature that might otherwise seem intimidating or irrelevant.

This course will include an asynchronous field trip to a site from the world of Fitzgerald and Wharton. Students will complete regular homework so that they have ample practice navigating the reading sections of the SAT and ACT.

—

Instructor: Katie Patterson

*Katie attended The Taft School, where she first began tutoring high school Physics. Katie then earned her BA in Psychology with Honors from Vanderbilt University. She graduated from the post-baccalaureate premedical program at Columbia University with a merit-based scholarship, and earned a student service award for co-creating a learning community in which she led bi-weekly study groups in Biology and Chemistry. Following graduation from Columbia, Katie was employed by the University as a student coach, and facilitated group discussions relating to time management and study strategies. She has been meditating for 16 years and is a 100-hour YRT certified meditation instructor and a level I & II certified reiki practitioner. Katie tutors high school math, all levels of Biology and Chemistry, and for all sections of the ISEE, SSAT, SHSAT, GRE, ACT and SAT.*



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**Busting Math Phobias: Pre-SAT/ACT**

July 7 - August 9

MW, 4:00 - 5:30 PM

Remote, via Zoom

Open to: Rising 11th graders

Total hours: 15

Fee: \$850

Did you finish Algebra I in the spring, but find you can't remember the quadratic formula or how to solve a system of equations? Are you feeling rusty on the fundamentals of exponents, SOH CAH TOA, or rational expressions? The SAT and ACT test your cumulative math knowledge, so rising juniors need to sharpen their skills from 8th, 9th, and 10th grade at the same time that they prepare to meet the challenges of 11th grade math curriculum.

This course will reinforce key concepts from algebra and geometry that show up on the SAT and ACT, so that students enter junior year with the confidence to launch into test prep.

This class is intended as a multi-topic review; students interested in in-depth or remedial review should inquire with Bespoke about individualized tutoring.

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Instructor: Daniel Bailin

*Daniel grew up on Long Island and attended Hewlett High School where he was named a National Merit Finalist and AP Scholar with Distinction. He graduated summa cum laude from the University of Delaware, earning a BS in Biochemistry and BA in Liberal Studies as a Eugene duPont Memorial Scholar. Daniel holds an MFA from UNC Chapel Hill. His teaching and tutoring roles have ranged from MCAT test prep to writing to Shakespearean performance. Daniel tutors all levels of Biology and Chemistry, and all sections of the SAT and ACT.*

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**Busting Math Phobias: Pre-Algebra**

July 7 - August 9

MW, 4:00 - 5:30 PM

Remote, via Zoom

Open to: Rising 9th and 10th graders

Total hours: 15

Fee: \$850

For students with a shaky foundation in pre-algebra, either from middle school or 9th grade math class, this class will provide the reinforcement of concepts necessary to take on Algebra I next year. From order of operations to manipulating fractions, the syllabus will focus on key topics that you will encounter throughout high school, as well as on standardized tests. As you strengthen the skills you developed in math class in the past year, you will also practice applying them to more difficult problems, so that you can dive into Algebra I with confidence and ease.

This class is intended as general review, and students interested in in-depth or remedial review should inquire with Bespoke about individualized tutoring.

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Instructor: Dorothy Nguyen

*Dorothy graduated from Rutgers University's pre-med track with a degree in American Studies and a minor in Music. She has tutored students of all ages, learning styles, and abilities, and she specializes in helping students with executive functioning and study skills. Dorothy provides STEM enrichment tutoring and tutors a wide array of standardized tests, including the Biology, Physics, and Math 2 Subject Tests, as well as all sections of the ACT, SAT, ISEE, SSAT, and SHSAT. Dorothy is also a comedian and writer, who performs improv and sketches with several comedy groups.*

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**Back-to-School Essentials**

August 23 - August 27

MTWThF 10:00 - 11:30 AM

Bespoke UES

Open to: Rising 9th - 12th graders

Total hours: 7.5

Fee: \$425

*Note: This course will be capped at 6*

Students are heading back into classrooms, sports seasons, and extracurricular schedules—how can you balance all the responsibilities and demands of the upcoming school year, now that activities are in-person once again? Just as remote learning required new study habits, the return to campus will call for students to bring renewed attention to their organizational and time management skills.

This five-day workshop will introduce students to essential executive functioning skills: from prioritizing tasks to organized note-taking. Students will create individualized systems for coordinating their personal calendars, school planners, and study materials, so that they have a framework to rely on for the rest of high school and into college. The workshop will also integrate practices to promote mental health and mindfulness.

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Instructor: Katie Patterson

*Katie attended The Taft School, where she first began tutoring high school Physics. Katie then earned her BA in Psychology with Honors from Vanderbilt University. She graduated from the post-baccalaureate premedical program at Columbia University with a merit-based scholarship, and earned a student service award for co-creating a learning community in which she led bi-weekly study groups in Biology and Chemistry. Following graduation from Columbia, Katie was employed by the University as a student coach, and facilitated group discussions relating to time management and study strategies. She has been meditating for 16 years and is a 100-hour YRT certified meditation instructor and a level I & II certified reiki practitioner. Katie tutors high school math, all levels of Biology and Chemistry, and for all sections of the ISEE, SSAT, SHSAT, GRE, ACT and SAT.*



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## Test Prep Courses

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### **SAT Prep: Foundations Course**

*Session A:* July 12 - July 23  
MTWThF, 10:00 - 11:30 AM  
Bespoke UES

*Session B:* August 2 - August 13  
MTWThF, 5:00-6:30 PM  
Remote, via Zoom

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### **ACT Prep: Foundations Course**

*Session A:* July 12 - July 23  
MTWThF, 10:00 - 11:30 AM  
Remote, via Zoom

*Session B:* August 2 - August 13  
MTWThF, 5:00-6:30 PM  
Bespoke UES

Open to: Rising 11th graders

Total hours: 15 class, 6 mock testing  
Fee: \$895

*Note: Session A and B are the same course content; students should choose a session based on schedule.*

Designed to kickstart the test prep process for rising juniors, the Foundations courses will improve confidence and test-taking skills by giving students an in-depth knowledge of the SAT or ACT exam. Students begin by taking a diagnostic exam before class begins, to determine which test, SAT or ACT, they should prep for; the Bespoke team will offer personalized guidance to help students make this choice and to place them in the appropriate class section.

Classes will cover the content and strategies for all sections of the exams and will include curriculum from Bespoke's proprietary lesson books and real, released questions. Each course includes one full-length mock test taken under timed conditions so that students can practice in a test-like, proctored environment and map out a plan for continuing test prep in the fall.

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Instructors: Christine Shaw and Trace Pope

*Christine grew up in Athens, Georgia and graduated Magna Cum Laude from Yale University with a degree in Theater Studies. She taught gifted 7th and 8th graders with the Duke TIP Summer Academy and taught in the middle school drama department at Athens Academy. She tutors all sections of the SAT (with particular love of the new SAT math), the ACT, and a variety of high school and middle school subjects.*

*Trace attended the University of Texas at Austin where he received a B.A. in English. He then studied at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art where he received a M.A. in Classical Acting. Trace views tutoring as an opportunity to honor the educators who have made an impact on his own life and learning. Trace tutors for all sections of the ACT, SAT, ISEE, SSAT and SHSAT.*



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**SAT Prep: Springboard Course**

July 26 - July 30

MTWThF, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Bespoke UES

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**ACT Prep: Springboard Course**

July 26 - July 30

MTWThF, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Bespoke UES

This intensive course will give rising juniors a thorough introduction to the fundamental strategies and skills they need to excel on the SAT and ACT. The course will then lead students through a fast-paced review of core topics from the tests. Students begin by taking a diagnostic exam before class begins to determine which test, SAT or ACT, they should prep for; the Bespoke team will offer personalized guidance to help students make this choice and to place them in the appropriate section.

Designed for juniors who want to kickstart their test prep process, classes will work through practice problems from all sections of the exams. Lesson materials are drawn from Bespoke's proprietary lesson books and real, released questions. Each course includes one full-length mock test taken under timed conditions so that students can practice in a proctored environment and craft a plan for continuing test prep in the year to come.

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Open to: Rising 11th graders

Instructors: Trace Pope and Maya Bassuk

Total hours: 10 class, 6 mock testing  
Fee: \$795

*Trace attended the University of Texas at Austin where he received a B.A. in English. He then studied at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art where he received a M.A. in Classical Acting. Trace views tutoring as an opportunity to honor the educators who have made an impact on his own life and learning. Trace tutors for all sections of the ACT, SAT, ISEE, SSAT and SHSAT.*

*Note: This course will be capped at 6*

*Maya grew up in Chicago and graduated summa cum laude from the University of Iowa with BAs in Music and Theatre Arts and a Spanish minor. She is currently pursuing a Master's of Arts in K-12 Spanish Teaching through Rutgers University. Maya specializes in the ACT, SAT, ISEE, SSAT, SHSAT, and academic tutoring in English, Spanish, biology, and math through calculus.*



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**SAT Prep: Comprehensive Course**

July 6 - August 12  
TTh, 5:30 - 7:00 PM  
Remote, via Zoom

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**ACT Prep: Comprehensive Course**

June 29 - August 5  
TTh, 5:30 - 7:00 PM  
Remote, via Zoom

Designed to guide rising juniors through an intensive and complete test prep process, the Comprehensive courses will introduce students to crucial test-taking skills and strategies. The courses give students an in-depth knowledge of the SAT or ACT exam so that they can develop a personal test prep plan to carry them all the way to Test Day. Students begin by taking a diagnostic exam before class begins, to determine which test, SAT or ACT, they should prep for; the Bespoke team will offer personalized guidance to help students make this choice.

Classes will cover content and strategies for all sections of the exams. Course materials include Bespoke’s proprietary lesson book and released test questions. Each course includes two full-length mock tests taken under timed conditions so that students can practice in a test-like, proctored environment and track their progress on all sections of the test.

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Open to: Rising 11th graders

Instructors: Christine Shaw and Conrad Schott

Total hours: 18 class, 10 mock testing  
Fee: \$1275

*Christine grew up in Athens, Georgia and graduated Magna Cum Laude from Yale University with a degree in Theater Studies. She taught gifted 7th and 8th graders with the Duke TIP Summer Academy and taught in the middle school drama department at Athens Academy. She tutors all sections of the SAT, the ACT, and a variety of high school and middle school subjects.*

*Conrad grew up in Louisiana and earned his BA in Drama at Vassar College. He holds an MFA in Classical Acting from The George Washington University and is now an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Drama at Vassar College. Conrad previously taught for Kaplan Test Prep and specializes in the SAT, ACT, ISEE, SSAT, and SHSAT, as well as general homework help, academic habits, and managing test anxiety.*



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**SAT Prep: Booster Course**

August 9 - August 20

MTWThF, 5:00 - 6:30 PM

Remote, via Zoom

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**ACT Prep: Booster Course**

July 5 - July 16

MTWThF, 5:00 - 6:30 PM

Remote, via Zoom

These two-week courses will strengthen test-taking skills for rising seniors who have begun test prep but have yet to reach their goal score. After a brief review of essential strategies, classes will concentrate on reinforcing content and providing extra practice to bridge the gap from junior year to the senior fall and the upcoming test dates. Each course includes two full-length weekend mock tests, taken under timed conditions, so that students can practice in a test-like, proctored environment.

*Note:* The SAT Booster is appropriate for students targeting the August 28 real test date. The ACT Booster is appropriate for students targeting the July 17 real test date.

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Open to: Rising 12th graders

Instructors: Eden Ohayon

Hours: 15 in class, 6 in mock testing

Fee: \$895

*Eden grew up in sunny Southern California and graduated from Yale University with a dual degree in English with a Writing Concentration and Theater Studies. She taught Literature and Drama at Breakthrough New York's Manhattan site and has worked as a content generator for Zinkerz, an education technology company focused on standardized test prep. Eden tutors all sections of the ISEE, SSAT, SHSAT, SAT, ACT, GMAT, GRE, and AP exams, and she specializes in college admissions essay prep.*

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**SAT Prep: Back-in-Gear Bootcamp**

August 23 - August 27

MTWThF, 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Bespoke UES\*

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**ACT Prep: Back-in-Gear Bootcamp**

August 23 - August 27

MTWThF, 1:30 - 3:30 PM

Bespoke UES\*

\* *Students may also attend virtually*

Designed for rising seniors pursuing another bump in their scores, the curriculum for these one-week intensive courses will be based on the particular needs of the enrolled students. On the weekend before class begins (August 21), students will take a full-length mock test, so that instructors can design targeted review lessons based on a current assessment of the gaps in students' mastery of content.

The Back-in-Gear Bootcamps are appropriate for students who have already completed 2-4 months of test prep.

Students will be prepared to take the SAT on August 28 and the ACT on September 11, respectively.

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Open to: Rising 12th graders

Hours: 10 in class, 3 in mock testing

Fee: \$795

*Note: This course will be capped at 6*

Instructors: Sarah Cuneo and Maya Bassuk

*Sarah grew up in New Jersey and holds a B.A. in Psychology and certificates in Neuroscience and Theater from Princeton University. Sarah then went on to receive her M.F.A from the Case Western Reserve University/Cleveland Play House M.F.A. Acting Program, where she served as a Graduate Fellow/Research Assistant and received the Eva L. Pancoast Memorial Fellowship. Sarah tutors all sections of the ISEE, SSAT, SHSAT, ACT, SAT, GMAT and GRE.*

*Maya grew up in Chicago and Iowa City, Iowa, and graduated summa cum laude from the University of Iowa with BAs in Music and Theatre Arts and a Spanish minor. She is currently pursuing a Master's of Arts in K-12 Spanish Teaching through Rutgers University. Maya specializes in the ACT, SAT, ISEE, SSAT, SHSAT, and academic tutoring in English, Spanish, biology, and math through calculus.*



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**SSAT/ISEE Prep: Foundations Course**

August 2 - August 13

MTWThF, 10:00-11:30 AM

Bespoke UES\*

\* *Students may also attend virtually*

This course covers content and strategies for the math, reading, and vocabulary content on both high school admissions tests, the SSAT and ISEE.

Students will master test strategies that help them move more quickly and with more confidence through each section. The class will discuss question types that are specific to each test, and the instructor will assist students in making their individual testing plans, including their choice of which test to pursue in the fall.

The curriculum includes Bespoke's proprietary lesson book and real, released practice questions. The course also includes two mock tests, so that students can practice taking either the SSAT or ISEE (or both) in a proctored, test-like environment.

—

Open to: Rising 8th graders

Instructor: Conrad Schott

Hours: 15 in class, 5 in mock testing

Fee: \$895

*Note: This course will be capped at 6*

*Conrad grew up in Louisiana and attended a public boarding school, The Louisiana School for Math, Science and the Arts, where he was inducted into the school's Hall of Fame for excellence in academics, extracurriculars, and service. Conrad earned his BA in Drama at Vassar College and was awarded the Molly Thacher Kazan Memorial Prize for distinction in the theater arts. He holds an MFA in Classical Acting from The George Washington University. Conrad specializes in the SAT, ACT, ISEE, SSAT, and SHSAT, as well as general homework help, academic habits, and managing test anxiety.*



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**SHSAT Prep: Intensive Course**

August 16 - August 20

MTWThF, 10:00-12:00 PM

Bespoke UES\*

*\* Students may also attend virtually*

This weeklong course will give rising eighth grade students an in-depth knowledge of the Specialized High School Admission Test. Classes will cover the math, reading, and vocabulary content on the SHSAT, as well as the test strategies that help students move more quickly and with more confidence through each section. The class will discuss question types that are specific to the test, such as the Revising/Editing section.

The curriculum includes Bespoke's proprietary lesson book and real, released practice questions. The course also includes one mock test, so that students gain experience applying their pacing and problem-solving strategies in a proctored environment.

—

Open to: Rising 8th graders

Instructor: Nadia Diamond

Hours: 10 in class, 3 in mock testing

Fee: \$795

*Note: This course will be capped at 6*

*Nadia took a gap year to study French at the Sorbonne before attending Princeton University, where she graduated with a degree in History and minors in Gender & Sexuality Studies and Theater. Nadia has facilitated and taught in theater education programs and tutored students in project management, organizational skills, and test preparation. In addition to her passion for supporting young people in their intellectual and personal development, Nadia loves to hike, read, and act. She tutors all sections of the ACT, SAT, ISEE, SSAT and SHSAT.*



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**College Essay Writing Workshop**

Session A: July 5 - July 16

MWF, 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Bespoke UES

Session B: August 16 - August 27

MWF, 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Remote, via Zoom

This workshop offers students a structured approach to writing the first draft of their personal statement for college applications. The course will begin with a primer on writing a clear and compelling essay, then lead students through the brainstorming and outlining process. The instructor will foster a workshop environment to facilitate peer feedback on students' first drafts.

The course also provides each student with a one-on-one "office hour" meeting: a private session with the instructor to be scheduled after the conclusion of the class, when the student receives final revising notes and a plan for completing the essay over the summer.

—

Open to: Rising 12th graders

Instructor: Sam Segan

Total hours: 12 class, 1 one-on-one

Fee: \$950

Note: This course will be capped at 6

*Sam grew up in New York City, where she attended Hunter College High School. She graduated from Williams College with a BA in Philosophy and English. She tutors students in middle school, high school, and college in essay-writing, academic French, Italian, Latin, math, and physics. Sam teaches the Subject Tests and AP exams in Math, Literature, and French and for all sections of the SAT, ACT, ISEE, SSAT, and SHSAT. In her spare time, she reviews books and competes in Brazilian jiu jitsu.*



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**Common App Early Bird Workshop**

August 9 - August 13

MTWThF, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Remote, via Zoom

Your college application comprises several elements, and a key to a stress-free application process is keeping track of them all! This workshop will orient students to the various sections of the Common App—and, more importantly, to the opportunities they provide to an applicant to set herself apart from the crowd. Students will write first drafts of the most common supplemental essays and build a personalized timeline to help them complete final drafts by the Early Decision/ Action and Regular Decision deadlines.

The course will also include lessons in resume-writing and guidelines for professional correspondence, so that students can put their best foot forward not only in outreach to college admissions officers but also in future job applications.

—

Open to: Rising 12th graders

Instructor: Eden Ohayon

Total hours: 10 class

Fee: \$795

*Note: This course will be capped at 6*

*Eden grew up in sunny Southern California and graduated from Yale University with a dual degree in English with a Writing Concentration and Theater Studies. She taught Literature and Drama at Breakthrough New York's Manhattan site and has worked as a content generator for Zinkerz, an education technology company focused on standardized test prep. Eden tutors all sections of the ISEE, SSAT, SHSAT, SAT, ACT, GMAT, GRE, and AP exams, and she specializes in college admissions essay prep.*



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