

# Bellevue Learning Center

## 2021 Catalog

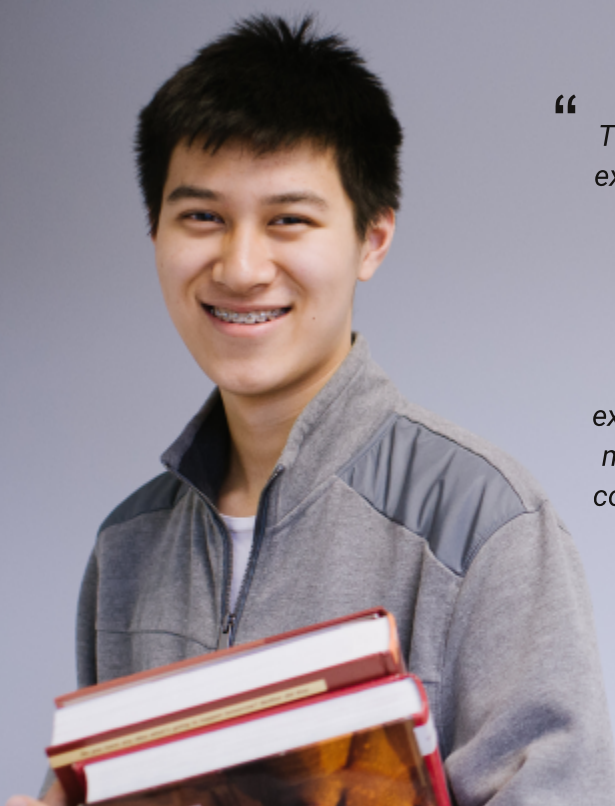


# Welcome

Since 1996, we have provided the greater Seattle area with premium tutoring services.

## Here's what sets us apart from the rest.

- 1** We aim to provide the absolute best learning experience. Our modern facility has classrooms instead of cubicles. We hire teachers who are not merely qualified, but who share our enthusiasm for learning and our passion for excellence.
- 2** Our students are important to us. We take a personal interest in helping them succeed, both academically and personally. We can guide you through choosing schools, class, standardized tests, and colleges. Sit down with us and ask questions. We are always happy to talk.
- 3** Our lessons are tailored to each student. Unlike other tutoring centers, we don't have a "One size fits all" curriculum. Instead, we examine timelines, goals, needs, and limitations, and create an individualized learning plan.
- 4** Our test preparation is second to none. We improve our program every year with feedback from teachers, parents, and students, striving toward the pinnacle of excellence and far surpassing our competitors.



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*The sessions at BLC, both individual and in groups, are extremely intensive and mind-strengthening. They used many different ways of teaching in order to fit every person's style of learning, and didn't just teach information but skills.*

*BLC taught me to always stay focused and to be extremely careful. By teaching me the habit of checking my work and always thinking logically I was able to be consistent in my test-taking and get that **perfect score**.* ”

- Jeffrey

# About Us

Since we are a small, family-owned company, tuition goes directly toward investing in your students' success. That means paying competitive wages to our tutors--so we only attract the best--and maintaining a bright, clean and welcoming space for your student to learn.

We are proud of the success our students have had in the past and strive to provide a service that will continue to provide value to as they continue along their academic career.



# What We Offer

## Enrichment Courses

The students most likely to stand out academically are those who are passionate about what they are learning. Unfortunately, with crowded classrooms and teachers racing through a standardized curriculum, most students do not have the time or resources to develop a sense of intellectual curiosity.

Without the stress of tests or grades, the BLC curriculum, individually tailored to each student, can enrich their understanding of core subjects and help them see beyond the limitations of their school-imposed curriculum.

The tutors at BLC love what they teach; they love getting to know each student, and they love sharing their passion for learning. We believe this kind of academic mentorship will help students develop intellectual passions that will help them stand above the rest.

## Test Preparation

Our SAT/ACT and AP tutors focus first and foremost on making sure that their students understand the test. Though these tests putatively evaluate a student's abilities in reading, math and grammar, they are also testing a student's ability to recognize patterns, make subtle distinctions and informed guesses.

## College Counseling

There are thousands of colleges in the United States. How do you know which one is right for your student? At BLC, our experienced college counselors will help students and parents decide on which colleges are a good fit for their future goals. Once our counselors help students narrow down a list of schools, they will help students strategize how to best present themselves in their applications. Ultimately, counselors will focus on the crucial essay components, using their knack for narrative storytelling to help students ensure they represent the best versions of themselves on their applications.



# BLC

## Summer Program

Our summer program prepares students for success on standardized tests and the upcoming year's coursework. Whether your student wants to hone the basics or nurture an academic passion, BLC has summer courses taught by qualified instructors to suit any need. We provide a positive and demanding academic challenge which will inspire students of all levels.

## Why Choose BLC?

### Challenging Coursework

Students find our rigorous academic programs both challenging and rewarding, giving them a sense of accomplishment and pride.

### Passionate, Qualified Teachers

Our instructors graduate from top-tier institutions and many have completed advanced degrees. In addition to their work at BLC, many of our instructors teach undergraduate courses at the University of Washington.

### Small Class Sizes

We keep classes small so each student can interact with their instructors. This way, we can address the unique needs of each student, strengthen their weaknesses, and challenge their abilities.

### Excellent Value

Each class offers 160 hours of instruction, practice, and testing. Unlike some tutoring centers, we don't want our students doing worksheets all day. We have lectures, discussions, activities, and tests.

Register online at

**[BLCSummerProgram.com](http://BLCSummerProgram.com)**

### Dates and Times

1st Session: June 28th - July 23rd

2nd Session: July 26th - August 20th

Monday - Friday

Regular classes: 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Afternoon classes: 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Afternoon SAT: 2:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.





There's no better time than summer vacation to grow intellectually at BLC. Our unique summer seminars are modeled after university courses in specialized subjects like journalism, Greek mythology, rhetoric and moral philosophy. These small classes, often taught by instructors with advanced degrees in their field, give students the chance to challenge themselves with rigorous college-prep coursework, without the added stress of the school year. Students who complete our summer courses will be better prepared for AP and IB curriculum that demand mature writing and analytical abilities.

## Morning Classes

• 9:30 am - 2:00 pm

- ✚ SAT / ACT Test Preparation
- ✚ ESL / English Language Learning
- ✚ Math / English Enrichment
  - Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2
  - Storytelling, Literature, History of Ideas
  - Journalism, Rhetoric, Writing/Research

## Afternoon Classes

• 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm

- ✚ SAT / ACT Test Preparation
- ✚ Math Fundamentals (5th grade - Algebra 1)
- ✚ Reading and Literature
- ✚ English Language Learners (ESL/ELL)
- ✚ Individual Tutoring

[View the full course descriptions](#) ➡

# Summer Courses

## SAT / ACT Test Preparation

(8 weeks)

Our 3-step test prep involves much more than just taking practice tests. We teach the underlying concepts and reinforce key skills in addition to teaching specific test-taking strategies.

Regular Price: **\$4500**

Early Bird: **\$3600**

- 1. Topic Review** Review the key facts for each topic and learn the problem-solving technique necessary to apply them to test questions.
- 2. Targeted Practice** Solve practice questions for each topic, filling in any gaps in knowledge, and learning the style of the questions. Adapt to how each topic is presented on the test.
- 3. Mock Tests** Put it all together with full, timed practice. Take full mock tests and track progress with detailed score reports. Learn test-taking techniques and tricks, and correct all mistakes.

**We offer beginner, intermediate, and advanced level classes.**

“ *The intensive summer SAT/ACT program at BLC covered every topic thoroughly while supplementing test-prep materials with reading and writing assignments that strengthened the core skills I needed to attain a **perfect score**.*

*BLC taught me to think like a test-maker. By learning to recognize patterns in the test and avoid common traps, I acquired the skills and confidence I needed to achieve that **perfect score**.* ”

- HeeSoo



# Summer Courses

## Grades 6–9 Enrichment Classes

*"On average, students lose approximately 2.6 months of learning in math over the summer."*

- Harvard Graduate School of Education

Don't let that happen to you. Our enrichment classes reinforce skills acquired at school and preview material from the upcoming year. We aim to keep our classes fresh, exciting, and challenging. We want our students to love learning as much as we do.

**One math and two English courses in a single package.**

We match each student with one eight-week math class and two four-week English classes, one in July and one in August. These prices include all three classes.

Regular Price: **\$4500**

Early Bird: **\$3600**

### Grades 6–9 – Math Courses (8 weeks)



#### **Algebra 1**

Learn to solve and graph linear equations. Master essential properties of algebra including the distributive and associative properties, the rules of exponents, and function notation.



#### **Geometry**

Discover definitions, postulates, and theorems, and learn how to write proofs. Study parallel lines, polygons, circles, and solids. We throw in a sprinkle of constructions for added fun.



#### **Algebra 2**

Master the many types of functions and their inverses. We cover linear, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions and their graphs.

# Summer Courses

Our curriculum is designed by instructors who have advanced degrees in their subject areas and have taught or currently teach introductory courses at the university level.

We make sure our students are more than just “excellent sheep.” By challenging them to think critically and independently, we equip them with the skills and confidence to make original and insightful contributions to their classes and receive recognition from their instructors.

We understand that the key to academic success is habit as much as ability. Therefore we focus on building strong study skills in our individual and group lessons in addition to content knowledge.



## Grades 6–9 English Courses – First Session (4 weeks in July)

- ☐ **Classical Mythology and Storytelling** (6th/7th grade, Reading Focus)  
From Shakespeare to Star Wars, contemporary literature, film, and music rests on the pillars laid by the Greeks, Romans, and other ancient mythmakers. Prepare your students for high school literature by treating them to the time-tested tales that have shaped Western and Eastern culture for thousands of years. Learning Greek and Latin root words in the context of these stories, students will hone the reading and writing skills necessary for classroom and standardized test success.
- ☐ **Introduction to Grammar and Literature** (7th/8th grade)  
Students new to grammar and literature will dig deep into the classics, learning the same way William Shakespeare, Jane Austen, and Robert Frost learned. Scrutinizing famous novels and speeches, this class will super-size students’ vocab, help them analyze sentences, and teach them to identify rhetorical devices. Along with these practical skills, they will likewise learn how to express their thoughts and cultivate sympathy for the diverse peoples they will encounter in school, work, and life.
- ☐ **The History of Ideas** (8th/9th grade)  
When students can’t tell Genghis Khan from Julius Caesar, how can they possibly get that perfect five? This course eases the burden of demanding AP History, Literature, and Composition by relating the major events of history to developments in philosophy, literature, and science. Reading college-level texts every day, students will grow a plus-size vocabulary. Similarly writing every day, they will develop the skills needed to succeed on timed essays, college applications, and university research papers.



# Summer Courses

## Grades 6–9 English Courses – Second Session

(4 weeks in August)

### **Writing and Investigative Journalism** (6th/7th grade)

In this course, students will learn how to collect, evaluate and present information in the form of newspaper articles. Each week, students will conduct original research, interviewing subjects and collecting information and data from corporations or government agencies, and “publish” their findings in the course’s online journal. By the end of the course, students will have learned how to solicit information from multiple sources, evaluate the quality of the information they collect, and compile information into coherent pieces of writing. Additionally, students will hone their grammar skills by editing the work of their peers before publication.

### **Argumentation and Debate** (7th/8th grade)

As innumerable distractions seek to dull their minds, students will sharpen their wits by learning the foundations of logic, the principles of rhetoric, and the art of debate. They will discover how to break down claims, use and abuse logical fallacies, and write sneaky questions that always get your way while developing platinum-level vocabulary. For the college-bound teen, these skills will help to meet future professors’ demands for accurate research, sober arguments, and concise expression.

### **Writing and Research** (8th/9th grade)

Transitioning from junior high to high school requires research skills that daunt many students. This class introduces them to precisely those skills. Students will learn how to use academic databases, distinguish peer-reviewed sources, and write according to the MLA, APA, and Chicago style guides, skills which they will use in their own original research paper. At the same time, they will discuss plagiarism, citation, and other concerns common to the high school and college classroom.



# Summer Courses

## English as a Foreign Language (8 weeks)

These courses take a long-term approach to language development and address underlying issues. Each class includes vocabulary, grammar, clear, concise writing, and plenty of reading. Students will also develop verbal skills as they interact with their instructor. We offer multiple levels:

- ☐ **Beginning EFL/ESL**
- ☐ **Intermediate EFL/ESL**
- ☐ **Advanced EFL/ESL**

Regular Price: **\$4500**

Early Bird: **\$3600**

## Individual Lessons (2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.)

If you prefer individual lessons, or if you have particular scheduling needs, we continue to offer individual tutoring over the summer. We will customize our curriculum to meet the individual needs of each student.

According to the ACT National Curriculum Survey, high school and college instructors ranked weakness in study skills, content knowledge, and critical thinking as most likely to contribute to a poor outcome in their courses. Therefore, at BLC we focus on building skills that will continue to serve students after they've graduated from high school:

### Prices by Grade Level

1st-8th Grade: **\$60 /hr**

9th-12th Grade: **\$70 /hr**

All Test Prep: **\$70 /hr**

✚ Encouraging critical thinking by challenging students with advanced topics and providing a supportive environment for investigating their academic interests.

✚ Improving study habits by teaching students how to balance workloads, use their time efficiently, and manage stress.

- ☐ **1 Lesson per Week**
- ☐ **2 Lessons per Week**
- ☐ **3 Lessons per Week**
- ☐ **5 Lessons per Week**

✚ Enhancing content knowledge by hiring expert tutors with advance degrees in their subjects.



# Summer Courses

## Afternoon Classes

### SAT/ACT Test Preparation (8 weeks)

Monday, Wednesday, Friday only  
(2:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.)

Regular Price: **\$3000**

Early Bird: **\$2400**

- ☐ This test preparation course features two hours of English and two hours of Math instruction and practice. It includes full-length practice and diagnostic tests as well as score reports and error analyses.

### Afternoon Classes in July (4 weeks)

(2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Regular Price: **\$1400**

Early Bird: **\$1120**

- ☐ **Algebra Mastery**  
Master key algebra skills while exploring application problems.
- ☐ **Pre-Algebra Mastery**  
Working with variable expressions and problem-solving techniques.
- ☐ **Math Fundamentals** (5th/6th grade)  
Practice, explore, and master the fundamental skills needed for upcoming algebra classes.
- ☐ **English as a Foreign Language** (EFL/ESL/ELL)  
Vocabulary development, reading and writing skills, and daily conversation.

### Afternoon Classes in August (4 weeks)

(2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Regular Price: **\$1400**

Early Bird: **\$1120**

- ☐ **Advanced Writing: From Structure to Style**  
Learn not just to write, but to write well by developing key grammar skills and learning the fundamentals of style. (9th-12th grade)
- ☐ **Reading and Analyzing Classical Literature**  
Read, discuss, and write about the seminal works of classical literature that form a basis of modern storytelling and rhetoric.
- ☐ **Reading Mastery** (5th/6th grade)  
Learn to love reading while encountering new and interesting books. Use a reading journal to analyze what you read.
- ☐ **English as a Foreign Language** (EFL/ESL/ELL)  
Vocabulary development, reading and writing skills, and daily conversation



# College Admission Program

Applying for college admission can be confusing, difficult, and frustrating. We can hurdle any obstacle and ensure that your application highlights the best version of yourself.

Here's how it works:

**Program Price: \$3450**

- Seniors only
- 15 Sessions
- August through November
- Maximum 8 applications

## Step 1: Parent Meeting

Counselor holds meeting with parents and students to discuss important aspects of the application process, such as selecting appropriate "reach," "match," and "safety" schools and weighing tuition costs.

## Step 2: Create Common App and Naviance Accounts

Counselor will help the students set up his or her Common App and Naviance account and ensure they are aware of all required materials (SAT scores, teacher recommendations) and deadlines.

## Step 3: Finalize School List

Counselor meets individually with each student for 1-2 hours to finalize a list of 5-10 schools to which the student will complete applications, ensuring a proper balance of "reach," "match," and "safety" schools.

## Step 4: Draft the Common App Essay

Counselor and student brainstorm essay topics that the student feels confident he or she could write about passionately and compellingly. After the student selects a topic, the counselor will guide him or her through multiple drafts of the essay until it is polished and ready to submit.

## Step 5: Draft Supplements

Counselor and student evaluate what additional supplements are required and develop a plan to write 2-3 essays that can be used for multiple applications.

## Step 6: Finalize Applications

Counselor meticulously reviews each individual essay and application before student submits.

*“ My counselor helped me tremendously by guiding me to find unique essay topics. His organizational skills allowed me to be more efficient and less stressed, and to complete all my applications. ”* - Yena

