

Aggie School of Athens

2018 Philosophy Camp for Teens

*For students **currently** in grades 7th through 12*

Sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts, Department of Philosophy, Department of English, the Department of Hispanic Studies, and the Public Partnership & Outreach, Office of the Provost at Texas A&M University

Dates: June 11-15, 2018

Time: 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

Where: Texas A&M campus

Information and registration: <http://p4ctexas.sites.tamu.edu>

Under “Summer Camp” tab

March 1, 2018 deadline to ensure full consideration

Fee: No cost

Possible Dual language opportunity (Spanish)

Contact: Dr. Claire Katz, Camp Director ckatz@tamu.edu

Aggie Philosophy Camp for Teens will introduce students to some of Western philosophy’s most influential ideas and persistent questions. But you will learn so much more than what the ancient philosophers thought so many years ago! Taught by Texas A&M University faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates, the Philosophy for Teens camp offers students a transformative experience. Philosophy camp students will have the opportunity to discuss and reflect on these big ideas, learn and practice critical thinking, and improve logical and creative thinking. Just a few of the big questions we discussed last summer:

What is ethics?

What is friendship?

Do we have moral obligations to animals?

Are we free?

What makes a government just?

What is art?

and yes, even the old stand-by...

What is the meaning of life?

If you ever found yourself wondering about these or similar questions, this camp is for you!

At Philosophy Camp, students will work collaboratively with faculty, graduate student

counselors, and, most importantly, with each other to think carefully about important philosophical ideas, that not only appear throughout history and but also in our world today. Expect to challenge yourself to understand better your own perspective and those of your peers. If you are interested in philosophy, or just want to know more about what philosophy is, this camp is the perfect place to start!

Philosophy Camp 2018: Democracy, Literacy, and Education ***Tentative Schedule***

Monday June 11 Introductions

- • Building and caring for friendships
- • Respectful Disagreement

Tuesday June 12 Democracy and Education

- • What is democracy? What features are fundamental to it?
- • How do we define education? What is the relationship between education and democracy?

Wednesday June 13 Education and Literacy

- • What does literacy mean within a political context?
- • What is the relationship between literacy and democracy?
- • Is literacy different from education? If so, how?

Thursday June 14 Literacy and Books at Cushing Archival Library

- • Paper-making, using the printing press, and viewing archival materials?
- • How does technology facilitate or hinder literacy?

Friday June 15 Literacy and Dissent in Democratic Societies

- • Can things like novels and plays be political speech?
- • Conversely, is all art political or is it ever “just entertainment”?
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