



SELAM
LEARNING

EDUCATE. INSPIRE. EMPOWER.



Inspiring and
empowering young
people through
enhanced education
programs

www.selamlearning.org

We Empower Your Child to Thrive

Selam Learning is here to empower your child with the skills and confidence they need to thrive. Our educators have created learning programs that have given high school students the knowledge, skills and confidence to perform at their best.

At Selam Learning, we focus on building strong reading and writing skills. Whether your child needs to strengthen basic concepts or tackle more advanced challenges, our programs are designed to enrich their learning experience and support their academic growth.



WE OFFER

- College Readiness Programs
- IGCSE & IB Exam Preparation
- SAT Test Preparation
- Essay Writing
- College Essay Coaching
- Summer Reading Workshops



Our Programs

As a leader in college readiness and international exam preparation, Selam Learning offers two key programs: the College Readiness (CR) Program and the Review Program.

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HOW TO DETERMINE YOUR STARTING POINT

Our program team will use a combination of assessments, including an intake test and a review of current academic performance, to determine the best starting point for each student.

The Intake Assessment provides a detailed understanding of your child's academic level. Based on the results, our team will make a personalized recommendation to tailor the program to meet their specific needs.

CR Program

Our CR Program is designed for students who are ready to engage in more independent learning. It emphasizes advanced reading comprehension, critical thinking, and longer assignments that often involve independent research. The CR pathways focus on enhancing writing and reading skills to better prepare students for English Language and Literature exams in international curricula, such as Cambridge and the International Baccalaureate.

CR PROGRAM STUDENTS

You should consider the CR Program if you are in 9th to 11th grade and reading at or above grade level.

Available programs include CR9, CR10, and CR11.

Review Program

Our Review Program is tailored for students who need extra support to boost their academic skills. It offers detailed instruction, enhances reading comprehension, and includes more extensive writing assignments.

Available programs include English 9, English 10, and English 11.

REVIEW PROGRAM STUDENTS

You should consider the Review Program if:

- You are in 9th to 11th grade and reading below grade level.
- You are in 9th to 11th grade and have had minimal writing instruction.
- You are in 9th to 11th grade and have learning differences.



Selam Learning Program Descriptions



College Readiness 9 (8 months)

This program is designed to empower students with the skills needed to become confident and competent communicators. Through the IEW curriculum, students begin by analyzing high-quality texts and progressively develop their writing abilities through structured, step-by-step lessons. The program emphasizes key techniques in organization and style, encouraging creativity and critical thinking. Students will engage with a diverse range of authentic texts, including short stories, poetry, and speeches, equipping them with the tools necessary for success in college and beyond.



*Target Students: Grade 9 /
Cambridge Year 10*

Curriculum Focus:

Reading, Writing,
Speaking, Listening,
Grammar, Vocabulary,
College Knowledge,
Psychoeducation

College Readiness 10 (IGCSE English) (8 months)

This program is aimed at students in Year 11 taking their IGCSE English Language exam. Our IGCSE English Review Program is designed to ensure exam readiness by reinforcing essential skills in reading, writing, and comprehension. The program offers targeted practice and intensive revision, helping students sharpen their text analysis, essay writing, and exam response abilities. Emphasizing critical reading strategies, precise language use, and well-organized writing, this comprehensive review equips students with the confidence and competence to excel in their IGCSE English Language exam. Ideal for those seeking to strengthen their knowledge and maximize their exam performance.



*Target Students: Grade 10 /
Cambridge Year 11*

Curriculum Focus:

Reading, Writing, Speaking,
Listening, Grammar,
Vocabulary, Examination
Techniques, College
Knowledge

College Readiness 11 (8 months)

This program is specifically designed to prepare students for college by focusing on advanced literature and essay writing. Students will engage with a diverse range of texts, including novels, plays, poetry, and non-fiction, sharpening their critical thinking and literary analysis skills by exploring the techniques and themes used by notable authors. The essay writing component emphasizes developing a strong thesis, coherent structure, and effective use of evidence, enabling students to articulate complex ideas clearly and persuasively. By the end of the program, students will have refined their writing and analysis abilities, equipping them with the tools needed to excel in both academic and personal writing.



*Target Students: Grade 11 /
Cambridge Year 12*

Curriculum Focus:

Reading, Writing, Speaking,
Listening, Grammar,
Vocabulary, College
Knowledge, Examination
Techniques

College Webinars:

Pre-College Immersion
Programs, College List
Development, Admission
Policies, Financial Aid

SAT Prep (Virtual)

Prepare effectively and excel on test day with our expert guidance and support through our virtual SAT class which provides 36 hours of group instruction, covering essential SAT concepts and strategies. You'll receive structured reviews, test guides, and session notes to streamline your study process. The course includes three proctored practice tests, allowing you to build confidence and refine your test-taking skills with detailed results analysis after each test. Benefit from teacher-led instruction, independent practice, a robust website with resources, thousands of video tutorials, and all necessary course materials, including SAT books and access to our self-paced SAT software.



*Target Students: Grade 11 /
Cambridge Year 12*

Curriculum Focus:

Reading comprehension,
Math problem-solving,
Grammar, Vocabulary,
Examination Techniques

Selam Learning Program Descriptions

Review Programs

Our Review Program is designed to provide additional support for students needing to strengthen their English Language Arts skills. It offers detailed instruction to improve reading comprehension and includes longer writing assignments to develop writing proficiency. Ideal for students in 9th to 11th grade who are reading below grade level, have had minimal writing instruction, or have learning differences, this program aligns with English Language Arts standards for their grade levels to ensure effective learning. With targeted guidance, students will gain the skills and confidence they need to succeed academically.

*Programs: English 9,
English 10, English 11*

*Target Students:
Grade 9, 10, 11
(Cambridge Year 10, 11, 12)*

Curriculum Focus:

Reading, Writing, Speaking,
Listening, Grammar,
Vocabulary



About Selam Learning

Service Learning Program: Serve Ethiopia Youth Club

The Serve Ethiopia Youth Club, based at Selam Learning, is dedicated to engaging students in meaningful community service projects. Enrolled students can seek membership in the youth club. As a member, you'll have the chance to plan and participate in volunteer activities, working closely with various charity organizations across Addis Ababa. This club offers more than just an opportunity to fulfill your community service hours; it's a platform to develop leadership skills and foster a sense of social responsibility. If you're passionate about serving your community and making a positive impact, the Serve Ethiopia Youth Club is the perfect way to enrich your experience at Selam Learning.



What We Do

Selam Learning is a social enterprise focused on expanding access to higher education for first generation college students. We prepare students for college starting as early as grade nine. We aim to cultivate confident and competent communicators and thinkers, ensuring that students are well-prepared to thrive in their academic, professional, and personal pursuits.

Our programs provide students with a practical toolkit for mastering five competencies that they must achieve to be college, career and life-ready.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to create a world where every student has access to educational opportunities, support, and resources. We strive for a future where all students can fulfill their potential.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to guide students to and through college, enabling them to reach their fullest potential and become agents of positive change in their communities and around the world.

Program Benefits

Reading and writing are critical skills for students as they prepare for college. These skills help with the student's overall academic success and prepare them for lifelong learning and professional careers.

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WE HELP DEVELOP ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR COLLEGE READINESS

- Critical Thinking
- Communication
- Responsible Decision-Making
- Self-Management
- Teamwork & Collaboration
- Smart Goal Setting
- Study Skills
- Growth Mindset
- Digital Literacy
- Research Skills

Learn more about our program benefits at www.selamlearning.org



Mastery in reading and writing not only meets global academic standards but also prepares students for the challenges of higher education.

The Importance of Reading and Writing in College Readiness

Reading and writing are essential for high school students' college readiness. These skills are crucial for academic success, preparing students for the demands of college-level coursework, standardized tests, and college applications. They also build critical thinking, effective communication, and research skills, all of which are vital for thriving in college and future careers. Additionally, strong reading and writing abilities foster lifelong learning and professional communication, setting students up for long-term success.



The Importance of Reading and Writing for IGCSE and IB Success

Reading and writing are essential for excelling in international exams like the IGCSE and IB. These skills are central to understanding complex texts, developing strong arguments, and performing well in essay-based assessments. Mastery in reading and writing not only meets global academic standards but also prepares students for the challenges of higher education. Success in these exams reflects a student's readiness for university and future career opportunities, making strong reading and writing skills indispensable.



SUCCESS STORIES



Amlakbekalu Achule

Future Leaders Program
Lebawi International School

“Attending Columbia University has been my lifelong ambition. And as I’m writing this, I am proud to say that I have been accepted to Columbia on full scholarship. Selam Learning has been an absolute game-changer in my college admissions journey. The 1:1 coaching calls were instrumental in refining my application materials into a superlative form, ensuring that my unique voice and experiences shone through. The college readiness classes (including the SAT prep class) and the comprehensive support system were instrumental in securing my admission to Columbia University, a dream I couldn’t have realized without their guidance and expertise.”

SOME COLLEGES WHERE OUR STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED

- Columbia University in the City of New York
- George Washington University
- George Mason University
- Purdue University
- Rutgers University
- Syracuse University
- University of Arizona
- Baylor University
- University of Kentucky
- University of Florida



Robel Bamlak

College Readiness 9
Sandford International School

“The CR-9 classroom was a place I loved; a place of both learning and fun, in no small part because of Ms. Selam and Mr. Wondwossen. Ms. Selam, through the wonderful teachers she introduced us to, the video classes she arranged (and the sweets she brought), and Mr. Wondwossen through his impassioned zeal for teaching, and his calm, understanding demeanor. In some of the aforementioned video classes, we learned about the myriad colleges in the US, and the best ways to choose from this plethora of possibilities by examining practicality and our own interests. We also had a class on how to write an essay, a hint towards the many college essays we will have to write. But most of all, I fondly remember those poems we read, those rivers of rhythmic harmony, those seas of deepest emotion. I remember the topics they covered; from the wonder of poetry itself to the darkest horrors of war. And I will never forget the stories we read; from the thrilling battle of hunter and hunted in *The Most Dangerous Game*, to the macabre terror of *The Pendulum*, the vivid image evoked in me by these narratives shine as brightly ever.”



Anna Fekau

SAT Prep
Hillside School

“I recently took the SAT prep class with Selam Learning and I couldn’t be more grateful for the incredible experience I had. The program helped me improve my SAT score by 200+ points from my initial baseline score. This significant improvement wouldn’t have been possible without the guidance and support of my instructor, Kali. From test-taking strategies to mastering specific topics, the curriculum was specifically designed to address the needs of students like me. The class materials provided were top-notch, and the practice resources were invaluable in helping me gauge my progress and identify areas that required improvement.”

Program Team



Selam Chale, MPH

Executive Director

Selam is an educator with a background in public health research and a strong commitment to quality education. She has received the Presidential Administrative Fellow Award, the highest honor at George Washington University, as well as the Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award. Selam holds a Bachelor's degree in International Economics and a Master's degree in Public Health from George Washington University.



Wondwossen Demissie, MA

Director of Teaching & Learning

Wondwossen has been teaching English Language Arts for over 30 years. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Foreign Language & Literature from Addis Ababa University and a Master's in TESOL from University of South Africa. Recognized for his excellence in teaching, he has received numerous awards, including Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program and a recent citation for "Exceptional Teaching" from Stanford University.

Hanna Abate Zimme

Program Lead

Hanna Abate brings four years of project management experience and holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from University of Sharjah. With a background in leading women's economic empowerment projects at a social enterprise, Hanna is committed to expanding access to education and creating opportunities for those in need.



Rediet Emebet Getnet

Psychoeducation Instructor

Rediet is a research scientist focused on improving mental health among African youth through community-based interventions. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Cognitive Neuroscience and Psychology from Harvard University and is passionate about providing accessible and contextually appropriate mental health education.



"In CR-9, we learned about the myriad colleges and the best ways to choose from this plethora of possibilities by examining practicality and our own interests."

**ROBEL BAMLAK
TESEMA**

*Sandford International
School, Year 11 Student*





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Our mission is to guide students to and through college, enabling them to reach their fullest potential and become agents of positive change in their communities and around the world.

CONTACT

For any questions regarding the program, please reach out to:

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Join our Telegram group (@selamlearning) for news, updates, and program announcements!
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