

The **ACADEMY**An educational program sponsored within the

Institute for Innovative Study

The ACADEMY is a generator of motivation and results. We are not a school but a helper and mentor for students and families. Our focus is upon practical education for people who want to excel, even when at times they may not realize what it is that they want to do, to become. We believe in the power of education in ways that some may find to be classical or old-fashioned – for instance, the importance of face-to-face contact and dialog with all its ramifications – and in ways that are highly innovative, individuated and experimental, including the most advanced and innovative approaches possible using the internet.

As a program created under the auspices of the Institute for Innovative Study (IIS), the ACADEMY operates as a faculty of select and peer-reviewed mentors and teachers, drawn together from diverse scholastic and experiential backgrounds in the arts and sciences, who work with individuals and small groups from middle and high schools and selectively with adult learners. We work also with schools, with professional and full-time teachers and administrators, to assist them with special and unusual situations that are we all can see to be truly opportunities and fulfillments in the making, if only the right attunement and attention can be devoted to an individual or group.

Ultimately, fulfillment is what we as the ACADEMY is all about, and fulfillment of the person and his or her close circle, especially the family. This is not only about formal academics and intellectual performance, but about character-building, and physical health, and social interaction. Almost all of the members of the faculty in the ACADEMY come from lifetimes of knowing firsthand what it is to both excel and to fail at things, what it is to be challenged, and to be challenging to others. We bring more than our degrees, papers, and the usual credentials of professional experience and accomplishment. We bring empathy and attunement that can often be the critical makeor-break difference in how a student chooses to go forth with their work in school and in the workplace.

The ACADEMY is not a degree-granting institution nor does it grant credits or administer examinations for certifications or licensures. We provide tutoring, advanced specialized training and mentoring for projects such as mathematics, science, engineering, arts and literature. We are highly attuned to the variations and challenges of bright and creative individuals who are often stymied and frustrated by external and internal barriers, some imposed from without, some self-imposed, and which together often create walls that over time can seem to be unsurmountable and a reason to turn away and seek distraction and substitution that can easily become a barrier and a break-up to so much that is bright and forward-looking. We are good at helping people discover things about themselves and their worlds that result in doors opening up where there once appeared to be only impenetrable walls. We think we can even turn the most boring topics and assignments into "look-forward-to-it" experiences that people will remember for the rest of their lives, things that they will use in turn to help and uplift the lives of others.

Martin Dudziak, PhD, Co-Founder