

Classroom Debates¹

Introduction

The classroom debates are exercises designed to allow you to strengthen your skills in the areas of leadership, interpersonal influence, teambuilding, group problem solving, and oral presentation. Debate topics and position statements are outlined below. Groups may sign up on a first come, first served basis, by specifying both the debate topic and the position desired (i.e., Pro or Con). Note that all groups must have signed up for the debate by the date denoted in the class schedule. All group members are expected to participate in the research, development, and presentation of your debate position. Preparation will require substantial library research. Each participating member will receive the same group grade.

Debate Format

15 Minute prep time

7 minute Position Presentation/Starting Argument – Team 1

7 minute Position Presentation/Starting Argument – Team 2

4 minute Work Period

2 minute intervene/questioning Team 1

2 minute intervene/questioning Team 2

4 minute work period

4 minute Rebuttal – Team 2

4 minute Rebuttal – Team 1

3 minute Work Period

2 minute Response – Team 1

2 minute Response – Team 2

3 minute work period

2 minute Position Summary – Team 2

2 minute Position Summary – Team 1

5 minute Tallying of Ballots/Announcement of Winner

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