

Debate

For the final in this class, you will be required to debate one topic from the readings in this class with one other student (or very rarely two other students). You must select two topics that you have an interest in debating and prepare both pro and con arguments for each topic (meaning that total you will have to prepare 4 different debate topics).

On the day of the debate, you will be given your topic and whether you will argue pro or con on the issue. Once given your topic, the debates will last ten minutes:

- 1 minute: Pro introduction
- 1 minute: Con introduction
- 1 minute: Pro rebuttal
- 1 minute: Con rebuttal
- 2 minute: Pro cross-examination and explanation of points.
- 2 minute: Con cross-examination and explanation of points.
- 1 minute: Pro concluding statements.
- 1 minute: Con concluding statements.

Your final debates will be worth 35 points of your final grade and will be graded on the following:

- Clarity of ideas.
- Clarity of language, including grammar, pronunciation, and proper word use.
- Organization of ideas.
- Response to points made by your opponent.
- Knowledge of the topic.
- Ability to answer questions.
- Confidence and poise.
- Response of students.

Debate topics will be chosen during today. A practice group debate will be held in class on June 3rd. Individual practice debates will be held on June 5th.

The final debates will be held on June 10th and 12th.