

Guidelines for Debate Notes, Debate Presentation

IST 618 Information Policy

Your goal in the debate is to convince the class that your team is correct and the other side is incorrect. In order to succeed you need to provide well thought out and researched arguments. This assignment is worth **100 points**.

The motion for debate is :

Libraries should be required to maintain limited historical patron records to assist law enforcement and intelligence agencies to identify US persons who are likely to become radicalized by a terrorist organization.

Debate Notes

The notes that you submit demonstrate that you have mastery over the topic and show that you are well prepared to engage in competition with a rival team over ideas.

The purpose of writing notes is to ensure that you are well prepared with evidence that you will use to persuade the class that your view is correct. You are expected to do extensive research on the subject to support your side. You thus need to consult academic and other high quality sources. Do not copy and paste from the articles themselves. These are notes, not an academic paper, but the meaning and relevance of the notes should be clear.

You should anticipate the questions that the opposition is likely to ask you and then answer them with data and examples. You need to provide at least two questions that you would like to ask the opposing team.

For your notes:

1. Each of the partners on one side of the debate will need to identify at least four main arguments that you think would be critical to winning the debate. The four arguments that you selected should be different from the four that your partner identified. You thus need to work together with your partner to agree on the eight different arguments that you will use to support your side.
2. Begin your essay with an opening statement that summarizes your position in one short paragraph. This should give some insights about the type of arguments you will be making the rest of the week to argue your side. Then you need to write your main points in paragraph form and prepare at least half a page (1.5 space) of notes on each with data, analysis from experts in the field, and concrete examples. In each you should provide a compelling argument that supports the proposition you are representing in the debate. Each of these paragraphs needs to be adequately cited using APA style with references at the end.

3. Write at least two questions you want to ask the other side. These questions don't need to have answers.
4. Write at least three questions that the opposition is likely to ask you and then answer them with scholarly research data and examples as well.

Debate Presentation

Format of the debate:

1. We will begin the class with a vote by the audience to determine how many are against and how many are in favor of the motion.
2. We will flip a coin to determine who wants to start
3. We begin with 1 min opening statements of all the members alternating pro and con
4. Continue the debate for 45-50 min with both sides arguing and asking each other questions.
5. We open the debate to the rest of the class to ask the debaters additional questions.
6. End the debate with each side presenting their final remarks in 30 seconds.
7. At the end of the debate we will vote again and the winner will be determined on the basis of who presented the most persuasive arguments. It is possible that class members will have very firm opinions about the topic under debate at the start of class. The vote at the end recognizes the quality of the arguments, even though class members may not have changed their minds.

Please note that losing the debate does not determine your grade. The grade is determined by:

1. Your research prior to the debate: the quality of your sources, the data, facts and examples that you collected to defend your point.
2. Your ability to present a persuasive argument, ask critical questions to your opponents, and defend your argument and answer your opponents' questions.

Grading criteria:

Notes (65 points):

1. Motion Title; Position: in favor or against; Opening Statement (10 points)
2. Identification of four arguments with evidence clearly identified in the essay notes as follows: (44 points)
 - a) Research with statistical data for each argument (3 points per argument = 20)
 - b) Examples – at least one example for one argument 2 points per argument = 8
 - c) Research citations – at least two research citations per argument (2 points per argument = 8)
 - d) Laws and regulation – at least one law or regulation for one argument (points per argument = 8)
3. Two questions for the opposing side (6 points)
4. APA References (5 points)

Presentation (35 points)

1. Opening Statement: Context of issue under debate; Clarity of stance on position and overview of main points of argument; Example or evidence to validate stance (1 minute for each debater) (15 points)
2. Presentation of argument: Clear presentation of at least three arguments (one at a time) , with research and other evidence provided for each; arguments are persuasive because they are

directed to the heart of the issue and evidence is credible and authoritative (3 minutes for each debater) (5 points per argument presented)

3. Question/Response: Debaters pose provocative and probing questions to opposing side in direct response to opposing side's arguments; Response is clear answer to question with evidence to back up the response (1-2 minutes each debater for response). Procedure is as follows: (5 points)
 - a. Question from one pro debater → Response from one con debater
 - b. Question from one con debater → Response from one pro debater
 - c. Question from other pro debater → Response from other con debater
 - d. Question from other con debater → Response from other pro debater