# Intro to Philosophy

## February 7, 2013

* Define key terms if Pro team immediately
  + “To say a belief is certain is to say there’s absolutely no doubt that belief is true”
* Which terms would it be important to define?
  + We probably live in a matrix
  + Any society is much more likely to go extinct than it is to develop the technological capacity to build a matrix
  + If people can built matrices, they will build a lot of matrices
* Prepare one or more arguments
  + Clearly specify what type of argument you’re using
    - Deductive (premises guarantee the conclusion)
    - Inductive (generalize from samples to others)
    - Analogy, Abduction, and Prudential
  + Clearly Specify your premises
    - In the past electronic technology has increased at a geometric rate
    - Continuing at that rate, we’ll have the capacity to build matrices in about a century
  + Clearly specify your conclusion
    - So we will have the capacity to build matrices
* Staying on Message
  + Make clear what your team needs to do to win
    - All we need is one example of a scenario we can’t rule out in which we don’t have hands
  + Make clear what the other team would need to do to win
    - We’ve given a deductive argument for our conclusion. Our opponents need to convince you that one of the premises are wrong
    - We’ve shown how past trends would lead to our conclusion – our opponents need to provide a clear reason to think these trends won’t continue
  + Keep reiterating these victory conditions and explaining why you’re winning
  + Let the audience know when various points your opponents have made would be irrelevant