

# University of Human Development

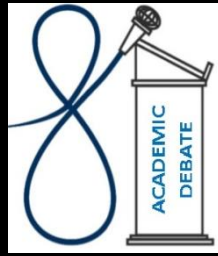


## Academic Debate

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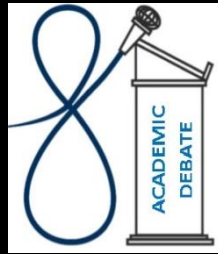
## CHAPTER 1 ACADEMIC DEBATE



# Presentation Outline

- ❑ What is Academic Debate?
- ❑ What is the goal?
- ❑ What are the things debate teach you
- ❑ Why should we debate?
- ❑ Debate Format
- ❑ Simple Debate Structure
- ❑ The basic debating Skills



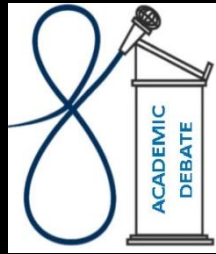


# What is Academic Debate?

Practice  
Comparing  
Contrasting

= Practice of **COMPARING** and **CONTRASTING** ideas

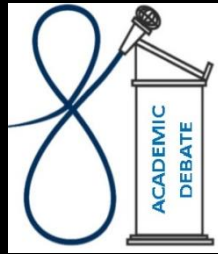
# What is comparing and contrasting ideas?



- **COMPARING** is showing similarities between persons, objects, and ideas
- **CONTRASTING** is showing differences.

= Comparing and contrasting are ways to show relationships.

= We compare and contrast in some form every day.



# What is Academic Debate?

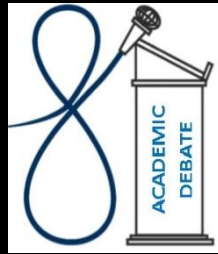
When somebody says **I disagree with you!** -

**They Don't Say** I don't like you -

=**They Say** the idea you had is wrong

- Like football game when you hit a footballer it doesn't mean you hate him he is a footballer and he's part of the game!

# The goal is:



Debate is not about trying to make the other person look bad

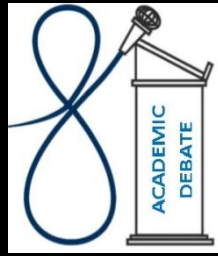
It is not about making yourself look big and good

The focus on debate is **ON IDEAS**

We **SEARCH FOR TRUTH**

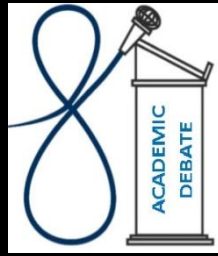
And trying to find out **THE BEST ANSWER**

# What are the things debate teach you?



- ✓ We learn to know we not always right!
- ✓ We learn to listen more to what people saying
- ✗ You don't learn hand righting skills but note taking

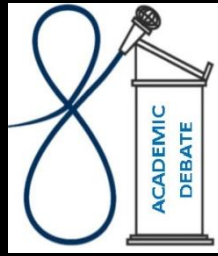
# Why should we debate?



1. It is good for communication skills
2. Learn to research
3. Write note
4. Think critically
5. More comfortable arguing with people

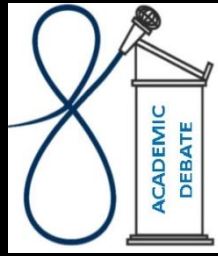


# Why should we debate?



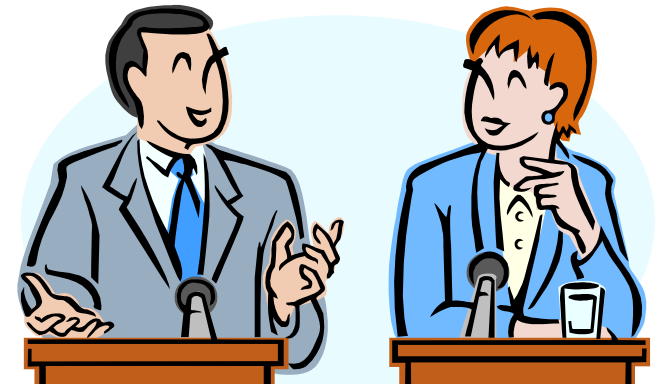
6. More informed
7. Build confident standing up in front of people
8. Learn logic and persuasion to persuade people
9. To line up your argument

# Debate Format



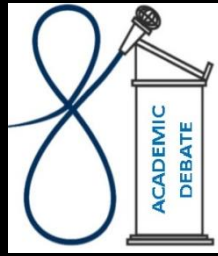
A debate means:

“a regulated discussion of a proposition by two matched sides, providing reasoned arguments for and against a proposition”



(Goodnight 1994)

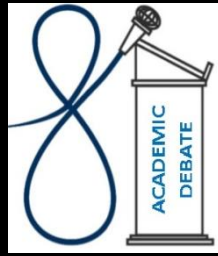
# Concept



A debate is, simply put, an argument. But rather than being a shouting match between two sides, a debate has strict rules of conduct, utilizing sophisticated techniques.

You may be put in a position where you must argue the opposite of what you believe in. This is an important part of the art of debating.

# Proposition



A proposition is a STATEMENT that is open to interpretation

It shall be:

- Controversial
- Significant
- Debatable

# Simple Debate Structure

## The Affirmative

### Speaker 1

1. Introduction
2. Pro-argument 1
3. Conclusion

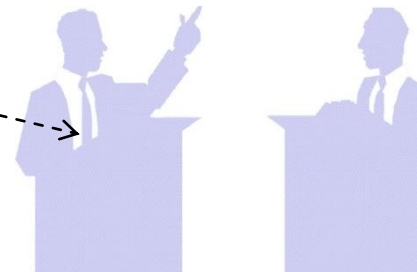
### Speaker 2

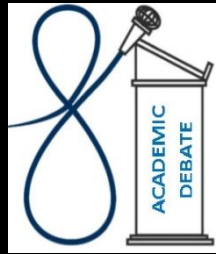
1. Rebuttal
2. Pro-argument 2
3. Conclusion

## The Negative

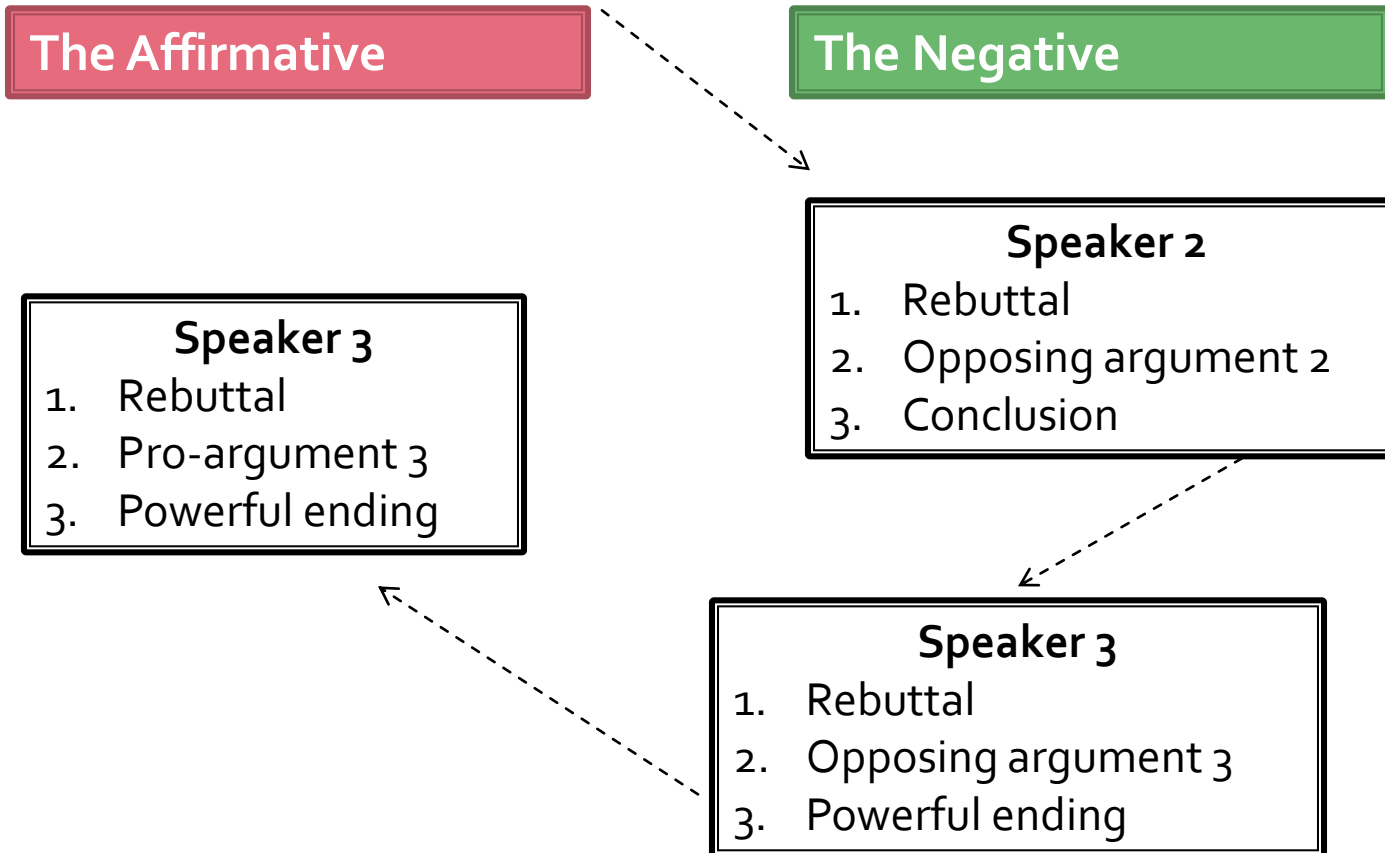
### Speaker 1

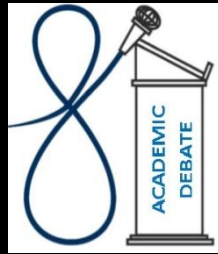
1. Introduction
2. Rebuttal
3. Opposing argument 1
4. Conclusion





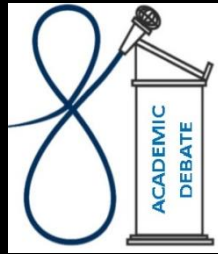
# Simple debate Structure





# The basic Debating skills

- ☐ Style
- ☐ Speed
- ☐ tone
- ☐ Volume
- ☐ clarity
- ☐ Use of notes and eye contact
- ☐ content
- ☐ General overview when you debate



# The basic Debating skills

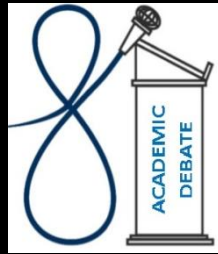
## □ STYLE:

- Style is the manner in which you communicate your arguments. This is the most basic part of debating to master.
- Content and strategy are worth little unless you deliver your material in a confident and persuasive way.

## □ SPEED:

- It is vital to talk at a pace which is fast enough to sound intelligent and allow you time to say what you want, but slow enough to be easily understood.





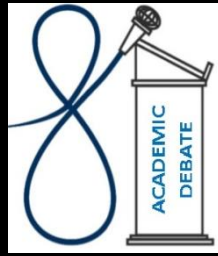
# The basic Debating skills

## □ TONE:

- Varying/ changeable tone is what makes you sound interesting.
- Listening to one tone for an entire presentation is boring.

## □ VOLUME:

- Speaking too quietly is clearly disastrous
- and shouting does not win debates!



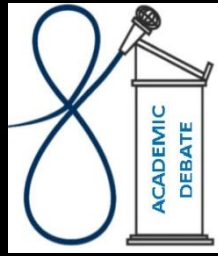
# The basic Debating skills

## □ CLARITY:

- The ability to concisely and clearly express complex issues & to keep it simple is what debating is all about.

## □ USE OF NOTES & EYE CONTACT:

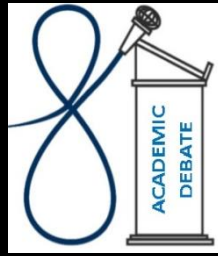
- Notes are essential, but they must be brief and well organized to be effective.
- Eye contact with the audience is very important, but keep shifting your gaze. No one likes to be stared at.



# The basic Debating skills

## □ CONTENT:

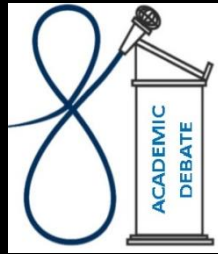
- Content is what you actually say in the debate. The arguments used to develop your own side's case and rebut the opposite side's.



# Debating Tips

## 1. Exploring the Topic

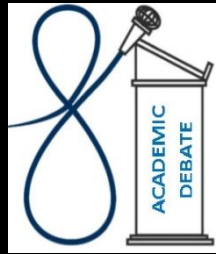
- ✓ Coming up with Keywords
- ✓ Brainstorm ALL possible arguments *for & against* the topic
- ✓ Come up with as many arguments as possible to support your claim
- ✓ Think about possible rebuttal arguments
- ✓ Gather at least three pieces of evidence to support your claim
- ✓ Reaffirm your position by repeating the highlights of your evidence.



# Debating Tips

## □ 2. Be extra prepared by:

- ✓ Search the web for debating videos.
- ✓ Have notes prepared, but do not let your debate become an oral presentation of a written essay.
- ✓ Practice speaking aloud in front of a mirror or other people.
- ✓ Understand both sides of the debate so that you are prepared to contradict the other side.
- ✓ Be ready to let go of small points.
- ✓ Concentrate on debating the main topics and prepared evidence.



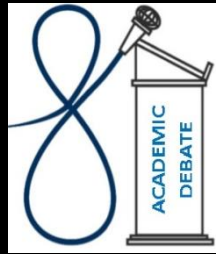
# Debating Tips

## □ 3. Seek to understand different views:

**Before trying to change others' views and opinions think that:**

- ✓ They come from different backgrounds
- ✓ They have grown with different group of people
- ✓ May be because of their culture, religion, or general beliefs  
.....etc
- ✓ Never say the other person is wrong based on your ideas.
- ✓ Seek a way to learn from others' opinions
- ✓ Educate yourself so you might be wrong
- ✓ When another person says something really wrong, use patience.

# THANK YOU



# University of Human Development



## Academic Debate

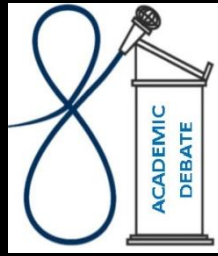
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## Chapter 1 Debate Exercise

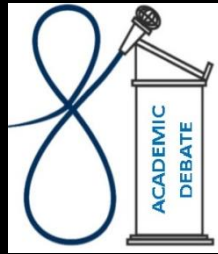


# Student Practice in Debate



- Choose **controversial topics** in current events
- Work with a team to prepare arguments for formal debates
- **Research both sides**
- **Brainstorm** arguments for and against each statement
- **Gather at least three pieces of evidence** to support your claim
- Conclude your debate by **disproving the opponent's** point.
- Reaffirm your position by **repeating the highlights** of your evidence

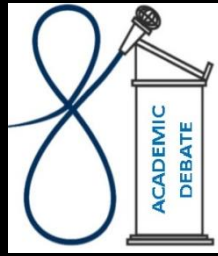
# Student Practice in Debate



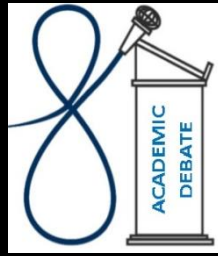
- Generate YOUR debate topic

FOR	AGAINST

# Proposed Topics (Group 1)



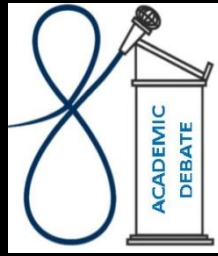
1. Teachers should not be allowed to contact students through social media.
2. Uniforms make universities more effective place to learn.
3. Macs are better than PCs.
4. The driving age should be raised.
5. Desktop computers are outdated



# Proposed Topics (Group 2)

1. University should provide wireless service for everyone.
2. People should be fined for not recycling.
3. Security cameras invade our privacy.
4. Intelligence depends on environmental factors, not genetic factors.
5. Video violence effects the teenage brain

# Proposed Topics (Group 3)



1. Androids are better than iPhones.
2. Students should not be graded on their handwriting.
3. Television is an effective tool in building the minds of children.
4. The death penalty should be taken away completely.
5. Video cameras should be put into all classrooms to record at all times.