
MANA 366 WINTER 2021
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
DEBATE GUIDELINES

For each debate, one team will be assigned to argue the affirmative case, and one the negative.

Here are some ground rules and pieces of advice:

1) The debate will have the following structure:

- Affirmative opening: 5-minute video presentation by one member of the affirmative team
- Negative opening: 5-minute video presentation by one member of the negative team
- Affirmative rebuttal: 5-minute video presentation by *another* member of the affirmative team
- Negative rebuttal: 5-minute video presentation by *another* member of the negative team

2) Videos are due at the beginning of class on the dates stated in the course schedule.

3) Each team is also expected to submit a three-page argument sheet outlining their arguments in support of their proposition, as well as the facts supporting each of these arguments. The argument sheet should also outline the anticipated arguments of the opposing team and the planned rebuttal. A bibliography of sources used should also be included (not to be counted toward the three-page limit). The argument sheet is due at the beginning of class on the date stated in the course schedule. Here is a suggested template:

Part I: Opening

Proposition: *Resolve that...*

Argument 1: ...

Evidence: ...

Argument 2: ...

Evidence: ...

Part II: Rebuttal

Proposition (of opposing team): *Resolve that...*

Anticipated Argument 1 (of opposing team): ...

Rebuttal argument: ...

Evidence: ...

Anticipated Argument 2 (of opposing team): ...

Rebuttal argument: ...

Evidence: ...

4) Arguments are reasons given in support of a proposition. Evidence is a statement of fact or opinion used to make an argument convincing. Evidence can include facts and figures, findings of research studies, legal cases, impactful stories, opinions of subject matter experts (SMEs), etc. – basically, anything that can make an argument convincing.

5) The debaters are not allowed to use any supporting visual materials during their presentations – no flipcharts, whiteboards, PowerPoint slides, etc. Please rely on your public speaking skills and concentrate on developing an effective oral presentation. This does not prohibit the use of notes, but please remember that an effective oral presentation rarely involves reading text verbatim. ***Obvious word-for-word reading of complete sentences will be penalized.***

6) The assignment will be evaluated as follows:

- Quality of opening arguments and supporting evidence: 40%
- Quality of rebuttal arguments and supporting evidence: 40%
- Quality of opening presentation: 10%
- Quality of rebuttal presentation: 10%

The quality of arguments and supporting evidence will be based on the video presentations and the argument sheet. This involves, among other things, the strength and structure of your arguments, the relevance and accuracy of your evidence, and the effectiveness of your rebuttal.

7) **Important Note:** The rebuttal cannot include information (either rebuttal arguments or supporting evidence) that is not covered in the argument sheet. Any rebuttal arguments or supporting evidence that are not covered in the argument sheet will be ignored and will receive no credit.