

Final Debate/Summary Quiz

4-7 pm Friday, June 13, 2025

Summary Quiz

On the day of the final debate you will be given a quiz that reflects all of the topics covered in this class. The quiz will be in the same short answer format as other quizzes taken in this class. The quiz will be worth 100 pts which will make up ~50% of your debate/quiz grade.

Final Debate

In this debate, you will be asked to study a particular topic, and critically analyze the impacts and interrelationships of history, culture, politics, science, technology. There are no incorrect opinions just ill-supported ones.

- Research your topic using resources from class and from outside of class.
- Write out relevant facts and statistics.
- Structure pro/con arguments.
- Back up your arguments with evidence-based explanations (science, technology, history, culture, politics)
- Prepare a case for both pro and con sides.

While teams will be working together, an individual absence will result in a 0 for this portion of that individual's final grade.

Format

The debate format that will be followed is a variation of the 'Australia-Asia' debating format. In this format, the two teams debating are called the "Affirmative" or "Proposition" and the "Negative" or "Opposition." The Affirmative Team agrees with the topic and presents arguments supported by evidence to demonstrate the truth of the topic. The Negative Team disagrees with the topic and presents arguments supported by evidence to disprove the truth of the topic. Each team has the goal of convincing the judges and the audience that their side of the topic is correct. The speakers are encouraged not only to put forth new points in their speaking time, but also to respond to points raised by the previous speakers. Each debate will involve two teams of three people and will last roughly 30 minutes. The debate structure is as follows:

First Affirmative Speaker (3-4 minutes)

First Negative Speaker (3-4 minutes)

Second Affirmative Speaker (2-3 minutes)

Second Negative Speaker (2-3 minutes)

Third Affirmative Speaker (1-2 minutes)

Third Negative Speaker (1-2 minutes)

Cross Examination

Each team member asks the opposing team one question. For each question, the responding team chooses one member to respond. The responder has 1 minute to answer the question. Each team member must respond to one question.

(10 minutes)

Audience Questions

Each team member will get 1 question from the audience to answer. The responder has 1 minute to answer the question.

(10 minutes)

Debate Topics:

1. **Significant and lasting change in sustainability practices can only be brought about by government mandate.**
2. **Developed nations should be held to a higher standard of sustainability than developing nations.**

Debate Groups:

Group A – Topic

Austin

Lily

Natalie

Group B – Topic

Riddhi

Roy

Group C – Topic

Erica

Zack

Group D – Topic

Dante

Paddy

Sean