

Presentation and Debate of a Global Issue

The format for the two-sided presentation/debate should provide each presenter approximately 8-12 minutes total, with a subsequent 10-15 minutes for questions discussion involving the class. The debate/presentation should consist of:

- Quick synopsis of the issue being discussed (1-2 minutes)
- Presentation of the argument for the “Yes” (or “For”) side. (4-6 minutes).
- Rebuttal to that argument. (3-5 minutes).
- Presentation of the argument for the “No” (or “Against”) side. (4-6 minutes).
- Rebuttal to that argument. (3-5 minutes).
- Questions/Discussion from audience (5-10 minutes).

Your **argument should be founded on logical and falsifiable premises and empirical evidence**. Also, a good, well-formulated argument **anticipates objections and counterpoints, and addresses them** (though this may be utilized for the “rebuttal”). This may include **research to support your side of the issue** (e.g., quotes, empirical evidence, data, news items, websites, etc.). You may **cite the arguments and evidence presented publicly by those who are on this side of the issue**.

As this is a course in World Politics, when possible utilize what you have learned from the textbook, class lectures and discussion to inform your presentation and support your argument. Particularly, **the approaches from Chapters 3 and 4 (Liberalism, Realism, neo-Realism, neo-Liberalism, Structuralism, Constructivism, Feminism, etc.) and the levels of analysis noted at the beginning of Chapter 1 (Individual, State, and System) should be noted and used to provide both context and support for your presentation and side of the debate**. For example, in simple terms, you might want to determine and note that your side of the debate is either based on seeking a pragmatic (realist) outcome (“this needs to be done in the best interests of....”), or perhaps an outcome based on normative values (e.g., liberal: “this is the right thing to do....”).

Finally, the essays in **Taking Sides** are all at least a year old, some older. So, do a little research to **find any information regarding any new developments or news that serves to update your material**, and thereby provide further support for your side of the debate.