

# SPEECH 133

## Argumentation

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Consultation hours: Thurs-Fri, 1-5 PM



## Midterm Debate and Paper Assignment Guide

### Objective

Demonstrate effective argumentation in a debate and an opinion paper

### Task: MIDTERM DEBATE

This requirement expects you to follow the rules of the British Parliamentary debate format in presenting your arguments on the given issue.

### Procedure

1. The class will be divided into pairs.
2. Four pairs will face off on a round of debate following the British Parliamentary Style.
3. The speaker responsibilities, debate rules, and specific time limits will follow the British Parliamentary format.
4. The debate propositions will be given a week before the debate date.

For reference, watch a BP Style debate here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AwqLs481F7E>

### Schedule

The midterm debate will be on **WEEK 11** (November 7-11) during class hours or another schedule agreed upon by the class.

## Assessment

The midterm debate will be graded 100 points, with the breakdown below:

Manner - Style – 30 points

*Confidence*

*Tone of Voice: Pace, Pitch & Pause*

*Body Language: Posture, Eye Contact,  
Hand Gestures*

*Energy Level*

Matter - Content – 40 points

*Backup / Support to Argument*

*Validity of Argument*

*Level of Analysis / Understanding*

Method - Strategy – 30points

*Timing*

*Structure / Signposting*

*P.O.I (Taken & Received)*

*Teamwork*

## Task: MIDTERM PAPER

This requirement expects you to apply the fundamentals of argumentation in writing an opinion paper on the given issue.

## Procedure

1. Using the proposition and position (opponent or advocate) you were assigned in the midterm debate, write a short opinion paper. The speaker roles (e.g., PM or LO) will no longer be followed in the paper.
2. Make sure to make use of the concepts of field, presumption, burden of proof, and prima facie case. No need to mention these terminologies—just present the actual scenario/information.
3. Take note:
  - FIELD – context
  - PRESUMPTION – prevailing order
  - PRIMA FACIE CASE– justification for change in belief or behavior

- BURDEN OF PROOF – TWO to THREE statements of proof that, depending on your stand, would either affirm/support the presumption or justify the call for change

In essence, the field, presumption, and prima facie case will serve as introduction of the paper as they will present the background on the topic. The burden of proof will serve as the key arguments to support your position in the body of the paper. Summarize your main points and provide a call for action in the conclusion.

4. You can employ the first person POV in writing the paper.
5. You may borrow information from your debate speech, but make to restructure it to meet the requirements of the paper.
6. Make use of at least 3 sources (online news articles from credible sites are acceptable). Use APA format for citations.
7. The paper should be 2 full to 3 pages long **excluding** the reference page following the paper format instructions in the course guide. Please use the paper header format uploaded on VLE.

### Submission

- Submission will be at the designated drop box in our Google Drive folder **on or before 11:59 PM, November 17** (Week 12).

### Assessment

The paper will be graded 100 points, with the breakdown below:

Content <i>Development of the arguments by presenting the field, presumption, prima facie case, and proofs</i>	- 60 points
Organization <i>Clear arrangement of arguments sustained across smoothly transitioned paragraphs; with introduction and conclusion</i>	- 15 points
Language <i>Grammar usage and mechanics, word use</i>	- 15 points

*and spelling, sentence formation*

Format

- 10 points

*Use of APA citation and prescribed paper  
formats*