



Final Exam

Business and Professional Speaking

Business Issue Debate Seminar + Short Report

(40%)

Very Important Points

- This is your final exam; the debate quality of content and presentation will determine **whether you pass or fail.**
- No guarantee of passing mark, so do your best.
- Prepare from the moment together **(both teams)** to make it very professional
- You will work in a group to research, prepare, and deliver a debate on one of the selected topics (You may also decide to debate another topic, but you need to take my approval first, as some topics are not accepted)
- The activity combines debate structure (argument and rebuttal) with seminar discussion (interaction, Q&A, and reflection).

Group Creation

Create your group and choose your opponent group

+

start practicing

Each group will be divided into two opposing teams: (4-5 Members) –

Very important

The number of groups must be even (meaning, no group must be left alone)

Check with **the representative of the class.**

- Team A – Agree
- Team B – Disagree

Both sides must use **evidence-based arguments**, demonstrate **professional communication skills**, and engage the audience respectfully.

Suggested Topics

(Choose One or agree on another, but after my approval):

1. Artificial intelligence will create more jobs than it destroys.
2. Remote work reduces professional communication.
3. Corporate social responsibility is more about image than impact.
4. Profit is more important than ethics in business.
5. Social media improves professional communication.

Video for you to see the rules of the debate:

<https://youtu.be/1TSkkxu8on0?si=2NNhQdoa3is5AaN>

Detailed Instructions

1. Research Your Topic

- Find **reputable sources** (academic journals, books, or credible business publications such as *Forbes*, *Harvard Business Review*, *The Economist*).
- Take notes on **key facts, data, examples, and counterarguments**.

2. Debate Seminar Presentation

- Debate duration: **25-30 minutes total** (approx. 12-14 minutes per team + 5-6 minutes rebuttal + Q&A).
- Each member **must speak**. (equal timing)
- Focus on **structure, clarity, tone**, and **audience engagement**. (Make sure to slow down, prepare well, engage with the audience, use examples and calculated jokes if needed)
- Use **minimal slides (optional)** - visuals should support, not dominate (this is not a presentation, PowerPoint is optional) .
- Respond to questions **professionally and respectfully**. (make sure to keep respect in your response and use formal and polite language when you disagree)

Date of the debate: 15th and 22nd of January. We may do all of them at once (one day). So, be prepared without any excuse.

4. Reflection Report – **Deadline for the report (8th of January) – Other part of the assignment**

- Submit a **300-350-word reflection** one week after your debate.
- Discuss:
 1. What you learned from the topic and the debate process.
 2. How your speaking, argument, or teamwork skills improved.
 3. What you would do differently next time.
- Each group member must **include their name** on their reflection.

Presentation Requirements:

- Business professional attire required. **(Don't come with informal clothes)**
- **Arrive 15 minutes early** to prepare. **(Respect the time, it is part of your image)**
- Each group will have a **moderator** (the instructor or selected student).

Grading Rubric (40%)

For both Debate + Short Report

Debate (35%)

Criteria	Excellent (90–100%)	Good (75–89%)	Satisfactory (60–74%)	Needs Improvement (<60%)
Argument Quality (10%)	Strong, well-researched, and logical points	Clear and logical with some gaps	Basic arguments	Weak or unsupported points
Rebuttal & Counterarguments (8%)	Effective, respectful, and evidence-based responses	Good rebuttals; minor issues	Limited rebuttal or evidence	Avoids counterarguments
Organization & Flow (7%)	Clear structure, smooth transitions	Mostly organized	Some disorganization	Poorly structured
Delivery & Confidence (7%)	Confident, persuasive, and engaging	Mostly confident; minor lapses	Some hesitation or weak tone	Monotone or unprepared
Team Collaboration (3%)	Equal participation and coordination	Minor imbalance	Uneven contributions	Disjointed teamwork

Reflection (5%)

Criteria	Excellent (90–100%)	Good (75–89%)	Satisfactory (60–74%)	Needs Improvement (<60%)
Depth of Reflection (2%)	Insightful, connects learning to skills	Some insight, clear link	Basic self-assessment	Minimal thought or relevance
Learning Analysis (2%)	Clear evidence of growth and skill development	Some improvement noted	Limited discussion of learning	No clear reflection
Clarity & Language (1%)	Well-written, professional tone	Mostly clear	Some errors	Weak writing quality