

FUNDAMENTALS OF PUBLIC SPEAKING/SPEECH COMM

GROUP LEADERSHIP DISCUSSION SPEECH GUIDELINES

Your leadership discussion will be a team presentation in which a group of students will create a discussion on a current controversial topic or issue that has persuasive merit. PowerPoint is **required** and the team must use no less than two types of visual aids on the slides or supplemental (i.e., text, pictures, graphs, posters, etc.). The length of the presentation will be 20-25 minutes per team with duties assigned by group agreement. **EACH MEMBER OF THE GROUP MUST PRESENT or points will be deducted...NO EXCEPTIONS!** The groups will then conduct a structured Q&A/discussion session where they may answer questions related to their presentation and defend their persuasive message against counterarguments. The discussion period will last an additional 10 minutes.

Group members will also evaluate the performance of one another. The criteria for the peer grading will include: professionalism, contributions to the preparation, contributions during the final presentation, etc. In other words, each group member will be responsible for contributing to the group work and will be graded by their peers.

You and your groups will be evaluated on the following criteria:

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| 1. | Coverage of the topic: | 15 pts. |
| 2. | Familiarity with the topic: | 15 pts. |
| 3. | Structure & Evidence (persuasive tactics): | 25 pts. |
| 4. | Balance of Team Participation: | 10 pts. |
| 5. | Ability to elicit audience responses: | 15 pts. |
| 6. | Ability to respond to audience interaction: | 5 pts. |
| 7. | Time limit: | 5 pts. |
| 8. | Delivery: | 10 pts. |

The purpose of this speech is to learn how to create an effective persuasive message following the proper sequence and presentation guidelines and work effectively in a group. This presentation is about teamwork! Individual members are not permitted to speak on their own...this is a group assignment so learn to work with each other.

Topics are chosen on a first come first served basis... **there can be no duplication of topics**. Your group will choose a topic from the list and decide a FOR or AGAINST stance, and everyone MUST agree. Remember you are persuading. All topics must be approved by the instructor.

Topics to choose from are as follows:

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| * Stricter punishments for sex offenders (state/national) | * Charging minors as an adult in a court of law |
| * Granting illegal immigrants guest worker program/citizenship | * Racial Profiling (national/international) |
| * Abolishment of high school sports | * Paying college athletes |
| * Tasers in high schools | * Legalizing steroids for pro athletes |
| * Raising the legal drinking age to 25/Lowering to 18 | * Human Trafficking |
| * Stem cell research | * Hazing in fraternities/sororities/athletics/military |
| * UN/Political/military involvement/intervention | * Granting inmates in max/supermax prisons rec time |
| * Charging parents with child abuse for obese kids | * Granting illegal immigrants full college scholarships |
| * Re-instituting the Patriot Act/"domestic spying" | * Banning SUVs to aid the environment |
| * Allowing oil drilling in "protected" areas of Alaska (ANWR/Keystone Pipeline) | * Requiring school uniforms for all public schools |
| * Cloning/Genetic Research | * Re-instating corporal punishment in schools |
| * Legalizing prostitution | * Legalizing marijuana for medicinal/all purposes |
| * Re-instituting chain gangs in the U.S. Prisons (I.e., Maricopa Co, AZ). | * Stricter guidelines/monitoring of child beauty pageants |
| * Stricter Immigration Laws (i.e., Arizona) | * Stricter laws on Cyberbullying |
| * Should the NFL be responsible for players who attain brain injuries while "on the job" | * Requiring senior citizens to take annual driver's tests |
| * Adding a "sin tax" on fast food/fruit juices/sodas | * Gun control/Banning assault rifles |
| * Creating laws on the disruption of funeral services (Westboro Baptist Church) | * Stand Your Ground Law (supporting or repealing) |
| * Should employers be permitted to review one's social network sites for jobs | * Should individuals be paid for donating organs (kidneys) |
| * Should felons be given the right to vote (Vermont/Maine) | * Stricter laws on texting and driving |
| | * Should U.S. Presidents have the right to use Executive Order any time |

To avoid serious value conflicts, please refrain from the use of religious beliefs in the presentation. Topics that will not be used in this class are: Euthanasia, Abortion, Capital Punishment, and Cruelty to animals/lab testing.