



Social-insurance Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF)

Student Debate Rules

Each Friday we will have a student debate on an issue (or resolution).

The group will be split into 3-5-person teams for our weekly debates. One team is affirmative, one team is the negative, and one team judges (along with me). Each debate team will also be paired with a graduate student instructor.

Teams will have some time to prep during class, but are also expected to work outside of class time preparing for the debate.

On Friday, each debate team will submit a 2-page written argument (to be read by both the judges and the opposing team).

Then there will be an oral debate:

- First, a (up to) 7-minute opening argument by 2 team members (affirmative first)
- Then, a 5-minute break for teams to discuss response.
- Then a (up to) 5-minute rebuttal by 2 team members.

After this, the judges vote, and the winner (and prizes) are announced.