

# **HUM5132 Human Rights Law in Context**

## **Debate Assessment (20%)**

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1. Each debate will consist of two students. The debates will occur on Wednesday 3 December and Thursday 4 December 2014. Students will be given their topic (including whether they are for or against the statement) on Friday 28 November at 12:00.
2. Each student will have 9 minutes each to present followed by 6 minutes of questions from fellow students and the study group leader. Each debater will have 3 minutes each to respond.
3. The students should not present their own opinion but rather take up the affirmative or opposing side (as allocated) for the debate question. Having to defend a set view is common in practice if one is working as an official, a lawyer or a NGO activist.
4. The debate will be graded by the course leader, who will not participate in the debate. The students will be given a preliminary grade from A to F.
5. There will be three main principles in assessing the grade for the debate will be the ability of the student:
  - i. To draw on the four main methods in the course - law, philosophy, practice and social science, in particular, that the student is able to clarify the conceptual issues involved, articulate the different types of argument, including the relevant legal arguments, and examine how the issue looks from the perspective of practice and/or social science.
  - ii. To form a coherent and convincing argument while at the same time demonstrating credibility in dealing with opposing views and any questions.
  - iii. To present the argument in an understandable and clear manner.
6. The grade from the debate will be taken into consideration when coming to final grade for the course, which will be primarily based on the essay assignment (80 percent).
7. In order to ensuring blind censoring of the essay, the grade for the debate performance will be sent to the programme officer who then put the grade in Fronter next to the candidate which will be anonymous for the course leader.