

# CJV\_DE: Debating in English



The English Major  
@Audenary

Foucault: Schools serve the same social function as prisons and mental institutions

Foucault's mum: You're still going

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# Let me introduce myself...

- Colin Kimbrell
- New Orleans, LA, USA
- Master's graduate from FSS MUNI in Energy Security
- PhD candidate, English teacher, translator, researcher
- Interested in international relations, sustainable development, energy transitions and energy justice



# Agenda

- Course introduction
  - Objectives, requirements, expectations
- Why debate?
- Forms of debate



# But first...

...get to know a classmate:

Name + area of study

Expectations for the course

Topic of interest/passion

# Course objectives

- Aims:
  - to learn how to build clear, effective and evidenced argumentation;
  - to get to know main tools of persuasion,
  - to develop students' negotiation/debating skills.
- The emphasis is placed on the development of students' analytical and critical thinking within discussions on a wide range of topics on current social and political events.

# Course objectives

- Teaching methods:
- Dual mode: debates in small groups online + fulfillment of homework tasks posted in the interactive syllabus in IS.

# Why debate?

- Debating is an everyday activity – with family/friends, at school/work.
- Any discussion/negotiation is essentially a form of debate.
- Debating to improve soft skills – creative/critical thinking, teamwork, research, negotiation...
- Debating to improve (advanced) language skills.

# Debate formats

- Formal team debate formats:
  - Parliamentary
  - Karl Popper
  - Lincoln-Douglas
  
- Others:
  - Presidential
  - Town meeting
  - Socratic discussion



# Course requirements

- Participation: 80% attendance (2 unexcused absences), active participation in discussions & debates
- Mini-research on a specific debating format and presentation of findings, i.e. background, procedures and rules (could be supplemented by a video example)
- Presentation on academic topic of interest + leading of discussion
- Giving a persuasive speech
- Writing an argumentative essay

# Other expectations

- Be prepared for class.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions (you can even bring specific questions to class).
- Do additional work on your own outside of class and beyond the course requirements.
- Be open minded and respectful; maintain a positive attitude!

# Video & discussion

- Set your house in perfect order before you criticize the world

# Homework

- Debate format research:
  - Parliamentary
  - Karl Popper
  - Lincoln-Douglas
  - Presidential
  - Town meeting
  - Socratic discussion
  - Model UN
  - Panel discussion
  
- Other: TBD via email