

Global Debate Skills 2

UGRA_014681

Departments	Department of People Management & Organisation
Teaching Languages	English
ECTS	3
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Course Goals

1. Develop Critical Thinking: Enhance students' ability to analyze complex issues from multiple perspectives, identify logical fallacies, and construct well-reasoned arguments.
2. Improve Public Speaking: Build confidence and proficiency in public speaking, including clarity, articulation, and persuasive delivery.
3. Research Skills: Equip students with the skills to conduct thorough and effective research, evaluate sources for credibility, and integrate evidence into their arguments.
4. Global Awareness: Increase students' understanding of global issues, cultural diversity, and international relations, fostering a more informed and empathetic worldview.
5. Argumentation Techniques: Teach various strategies and techniques of argumentation, including rebuttal, cross-examination, and the use of rhetorical devices.
6. Team Collaboration: Promote teamwork and collaboration by engaging students in group discussions and debates, enhancing their ability to work effectively with others.
7. Ethical Reasoning: Encourage ethical reasoning by examining moral and ethical dimensions of global issues and considering the impact of different policies and decisions.
8. Listening and Feedback: Develop active listening skills and the ability to provide and receive constructive feedback, crucial for refining debate skills and arguments.
9. Adaptability and Flexibility: Foster adaptability by exposing students to diverse viewpoints and unexpected counterarguments, teaching them to think on their feet and adjust their positions as needed.
10. Written Communication: Strengthen written communication skills through the preparation of debate briefs, position papers, and reflective essays.

Previous knowledge

1. Basic Public Speaking Skills: Some experience in public speaking or presenting in front of an audience to ensure students are comfortable speaking in a structured format.
2. Understanding of Current Events: General awareness of current global issues, international relations, and major socio-political topics to facilitate informed discussions and debates.
3. Research Skills: Familiarity with research methods, including the ability to locate, evaluate, and synthesize information from various sources.
4. Critical Thinking Abilities: Basic skills in critical thinking and logical reasoning, such as the ability to analyze arguments, identify biases, and draw conclusions.
5. Writing Skills: Proficiency in written communication, enabling students to effectively structure and present arguments in written form.
6. Teamwork and Collaboration: Experience working in groups or teams, as debates often involve collaborative preparation and peer feedback.

7. Listening Skills: Active listening skills to ensure students can engage with opposing viewpoints and respond thoughtfully during debates.
8. Basic Argumentation Techniques: A rudimentary understanding of argumentation, such as constructing a thesis, supporting it with evidence, and addressing counterarguments.
9. Cultural Sensitivity: Awareness of cultural differences and the ability to approach global issues with respect and sensitivity to diverse perspectives.

Prerequisites

"Global Debate Skills" is an inclusive course with no prerequisites, designed for students of all backgrounds. Here's how it accommodates everyone:

1. Foundational Star: Begins with the basics of debate, public speaking, and argumentation.
 2. Gradual Progression: Moves from simple concepts to more complex topics.
 3. Supportive Environment: Provides guidance, feedback, and resources tailored to individual needs.
 4. Varied Materials: Uses diverse learning materials to suit different styles.
 5. Practice Opportunities: Includes workshops and practice sessions for hands-on learning.
 6. Peer Learning: Encourages collaboration and learning from peers.
 7. Supplementary Resources: Offers guides on research, public speaking, and argumentation.
 8. Skill Focus: Emphasizes developing critical thinking, communication, and global awareness skills.
- This structure ensures that all students can effectively build debate skills, regardless of their prior experience.

Teaching methodology

Course Overview:

The Global Debate Skills course is designed to enhance students' abilities in critical thinking, argumentation, and public speaking. Through a combination of theoretical instruction and practical exercises, students will learn to effectively engage in and analyze debates on global issues.

Course Structure:

1. Lectures and Discussions: Each session will begin with a lecture on the key principles of debate, argumentation techniques, and relevant global issues. These lectures will be followed by group discussions to deepen understanding and encourage critical analysis.
2. Debate Workshops: Students will participate in workshops where they will practice debate skills in a controlled environment. These workshops will focus on:
 - Constructing coherent arguments
 - Refuting opposing viewpoints
 - Using evidence effectively
 - Speaking persuasively and confidently
3. Case Studies: Students will analyze case studies of historical and contemporary debates on global issues. This analysis will help them understand the dynamics of real-world debates and the application of debate skills in various contexts.
4. Mock Debates: Regular mock debates will be organized, allowing students to put their skills into practice. These debates will cover a range of topics, including politics, economics, human rights, and environmental issues. Students will rotate roles as debaters, moderators, and judges to gain a comprehensive understanding of the debate process.
5. Feedback and Reflection: After each debate, students will receive constructive feedback from peers and instructors. They will also engage in self-reflection exercises to identify areas for improvement and track their progress.
6. Research Assignments: Students will be assigned research projects on specific global issues. These assignments will require them to gather and analyze information, develop arguments, and present their findings in both written and oral formats.
7. Final Project: The course will culminate in a major debate event where students will demonstrate their skills. This final project will involve extensive preparation, including research, strategy development, and team coordination.

Assessment:

1. Participation: Active participation in lectures, discussions, and workshops.

2. Performance in Mock Debates: Evaluation based on argument quality, presentation skills, and teamwork.
3. Research Assignments: Assessment of research depth, analytical skills, and clarity of presentation.
4. Final Project: Comprehensive evaluation of debate performance, including preparation, execution, and the ability to engage with complex global issues.

Tools and Resources:

- Access to a wide range of academic and media sources for research.
- Online platforms for collaboration and practice debates.
- Recording equipment for self-assessment and feedback.

Expected Outcomes:

By the end of the course, students will:

- Master the fundamentals of debate and argumentation.
- Enhance their critical thinking and analytical skills.
- Improve their public speaking and presentation abilities.
- Develop a nuanced understanding of global issues.
- Be prepared to engage in high-level debates in academic, professional, and public contexts.

Description

Course contribution to program

Global Debate Skills contributes significantly to a the degree in Global Governance in the following ways:

1. Enhances critical thinking: Develops the ability to analyze and evaluate complex global issues from multiple perspectives, essential for effective governance.
2. Improves communication: Strengthens both oral and written communication skills, crucial for articulating policies and arguments in a global context.
3. Promotes global awareness: Increases understanding of international relations, cultural diversity, and global issues, aligning with the core objectives of global governance studies.
4. Builds research proficiency: Equips students with research skills to gather, assess, and use information effectively, supporting evidence-based decision-making.
5. Encourages ethical reasoning: Fosters the ability to consider ethical implications of policies and decisions, a key aspect of responsible global governance.
6. Develops negotiation skills: Prepares students for diplomatic and negotiation roles by teaching strategies for argumentation and rebuttal.
7. Fosters collaboration: Enhances teamwork and collaboration abilities, important for working in diverse, multinational environments.
8. Increases adaptability: Teaches students to handle unexpected counterarguments and adapt their positions, mirroring real-world governance challenges.

Overall, the course builds essential skills and knowledge that are directly applicable to careers in global governance, making students more effective and versatile professionals in the field.

Short description

This course enhances critical thinking by teaching students to analyze and evaluate complex global issues from multiple perspectives. It improves both oral and written communication skills, which are crucial for articulating policies and arguments in a global context. Students gain a deeper understanding of international relations, cultural diversity, and global issues, promoting global awareness that aligns with the core objectives of global governance studies.

Additionally, the course builds research proficiency, equipping students with the skills to gather, assess, and use information effectively, supporting evidence-based decision-making. It encourages ethical reasoning by fostering the ability to consider the ethical implications of policies and decisions, a key aspect of responsible global governance.

Students also develop negotiation skills, preparing them for diplomatic and negotiation roles by teaching strategies for argumentation and rebuttal. The course fosters collaboration, enhancing teamwork

abilities that are important for working in diverse, multinational environments. It increases adaptability by teaching students to handle unexpected counterarguments and adjust their positions, mirroring real-world governance challenges.

Starting with the basics and progressing gradually, the course provides a supportive environment with diverse learning materials and ample practice opportunities. This comprehensive approach ensures that all students, regardless of their prior experience, can build and refine their debate skills. Overall, "Global Debate Skills" prepares students for careers in global governance, making them more versatile and effective professionals in the field.

Activities

Analytical exercises

Group presentations

Presentations

Interaction with visiting guest professionals

Project development and presentation

Case study analyses

Content

#	Topic
1	
2	
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4	
5	

Assessment

Tool	Assessment tool	Category	Weight %
In-class analysis and discussion of issues		Ordinary round	15.00%
Group project		Ordinary round	20.00%
Final individual project		Ordinary round	30.00%
Quizzes/tests		Ordinary round	15.00%
Written and/or oral exams		Ordinary round	20.00%

PROGRAMS

GEL23-Bachelor of Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)
GEL23 Year 2 (Optative)