

Debate Format

Preamble

Weekly debates will follow a modified parliamentary debate format (speaking times have been increased.) Four students will participate in the formal debate, which will be followed by open discussion by everyone.

Each debate will be based on a resolution and there will be two (or more) readings each week that present different points of view on the resolution. Debaters must present the view described in a paper, as appropriate to their role (government or opposition). Debaters may include other relevant works. Debaters may modify the resolution in consultation with the lecturer.

Roles and Timing

Government: 7 minutes

The first government speaker argues in favor of the resolution. The argument must include evidence from the 'proponent' paper for the week.

Opposition: 7 minutes

The first opposition speaker argues against the resolution. This argument must include evidence from the 'opposing' paper for the week and includes some rebuttal of the government position. However, more substantial rebuttal is left for the second opposition speaker.

Government Rebuttal: 10 minutes

The second government speaker re-states the government position with additional evidence and rebuts the argument put forth by the first opposition speaker.

Opposition Rebuttal: 10 minutes

The second opposition speaker re-states the opposition position with additional evidence and rebuts the arguments put forth by the both government speaker.

Dates and Resolutions

January 21 Modeling vs. Enactment	Be it resolved that process programming cannot succeed because it is not possible to build a complete model.
January 28 Culture vs. Tools	Be it resolved that the coordination component of workflow is incompatible with social models used in the workplace.
February 4 Control vs. Agility	Be it resolved that software process must be controlled quantitatively to ensure that projects are completed predictably and reliably.
February 11 Invention vs. Empiricism	Be it resolved that field studies of software engineers do not produce results that researchers can use when creating next generation tools and methods.