



Undergraduate Program in International Relations (HSE and UoL)

Academic Argumentation in International Relations

Course Syllabus (Fall 2019)

Prof. Ekaterina Viktorovna Talalakina

Level: second-year course

Prerequisite: one semester of Academic Writing

Course Objective: to develop advanced competency in oral and written construction of critical discourse based on Superior-level English-language proficiency (according to ACTFL scale)

Learning Outcomes:

- Using rhetorical strategies and superior-level discourse in various contexts related to international affairs
- Mastering the skill of public speaking involving persuasion techniques
- Applying debate and negotiation algorithms to bilateral and multilateral communicative settings

Duration: Module 1 (7 weeks, 14 classes)

Course Materials:

- LSE: Studying for a degree. Chapter 4: Writing Essays. LSE
- Talalakina et al. (2018) *Mastering English through Global Debate*, Georgetown University Press, Washington, DC
- World Economic Forum: The Global Risks Report 2019 (open access PDF file): http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Global_Risks_Report_2019.pdf
- Instructor's Handouts

Extra Resources:

- <https://quizlet.com/GlobalDebateEnglish> (Quizlet sets with active vocabulary from the textbook)
- <https://quizlet.com/GlobalAgenda> (Quizlet sets with relevant vocabulary from WEF materials)
- <https://corpus.byu.edu/coca/> (COCA – Corpus of Contemporary American English)
- <https://scholar.google.ru/> (open access)
- <http://library.hse.ru/e-resources/e-resources.htm> (access through HSE login)

Course Structure: This course is built around the set of debate skills, formed through oral and written practice in the discussion of content-material relevant to international relations major.

Duration	Topics	Skill areas
Module 1 14 seminars Aug. 30-Oct. 18	Environment vs Economy (unit 1) Interventionism vs Isolationism (unit 2) Security vs Freedom (unit 5)	Types of arguments Rebuttal algorithms Persuasion techniques Rhetorical strategies Corpus functions Euphemisms and allusions Hypothetical structures Inferences, bias

Forms of Final Assessment (exam): Student Portfolio

Module Grade: 30% - writing (essays, in-class tasks), 40% - speaking (presentations, debates, role-plays), 20% - quizzes, 10% - textbook assignments

(96-100% - 10, 90-95% - 9, 80-89% - 8, 75-79% - 7, 65-74% - 6, 55-64% - 5, 45-54% - 4, 35-44% - 3, 25-34% - 2, 0-24% - 1)

Final Grade Formula: (Module grade)*0,7 + (Portfolio)*0,3



Student Portfolio Checklist (10 items):

1. Essay plans (2)
2. Individual essay (1 draft+1 final copy)
3. Peer-reviews of debates (2)
4. COCA assignments (2)
5. APA style reference lists (2)

Instructor: Ekaterina Viktorovna Talalakina (etalalakina@hse.ru) **Office hours:** by appointment

Classroom policies:

- **Make-up assignments policy:** It is possible to make up for certain (not all) types of assignments only in case of having a **certificate** providing a valid reason for the missed class (medical certificate, event participation certificate, etc.). Make-up tasks should be requested and fulfilled **within two weeks** from the day of the missed class.
- **Hand-in assignments policy:** All written home assignments should be **typed and printed out** (hand-written papers are not accepted). All assignments should be handed in on the due date. An extra point (1 out of 10) will be subtracted for each day of the delay. In case of missing the class on the due date, the assignment should be emailed to the instructor until 23:30 of the due date.
- **Cheating policy:** In case of any kind of plagiarism (with the detected source), the assignment is evaluated as zero without the chance to make up for it. In case of two written assignments with the similarity index of 50% and higher from two students, both get a zero for the assignment.
- **THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MODIFY THIS SYLLABUS DURING THE SEMESTER (TOPICS, SKILLS, PORTFOLIO ASSIGNMENTS) BY NOT MORE THAN 10%.**

Additional information:

- Online concordances for collocation check: <http://www.just-the-word.com/> and <http://ozdic.com/>
- Citation service: <http://www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite/index.php> (choose APA style)
- Proofreaders: www.paperrater.com and www.grammarly.com
- Mind map maker: MindMeister
- Presentation makers: Prezi, Keynote, Google Slides, Readymag, Flowvella
- Video lectures: www.ted.com
- Harvard guide to using sources: <http://isites.harvard.edu/icb/icb.do?keyword=k70847&pageid=icb.page342054>

Apps to install on student devices (optional):

1. Socrative (for weekly quizzes)
2. Google disc (to access collaborative tasks)
3. VK (to view and follow shared links)
4. MindMeister (to create mindmaps)
5. Coursera (to find additional open access classes)
6. Prezi (to make presentations)
7. FlowVella (to make presentations)
8. Haiku Deck (to make presentations)
9. Quizlet (to learn the words)
10. TED (to watch ted talks)