The debate should feature Weaver’s theory of rhetoric and at least one other theory (Aristotle’s or Lamy’s), based on which is most relevant to the proposition you are debating. The overall Debate 1 grade will be based on the brief (60%) and the debate itself (40%).

Debate brief
A debate brief is a collection of arguments and evidence that you can use when you debate. The brief should include more arguments and evidence than you have time to use. Include arguments for your position, and anticipate and answer potential counterarguments. Each team should prepare a brief as a Blackboard wiki (on the course Blackboard site → Course Tools → Wikis). See the “Sample brief draft” for a template.

2 on 2 (First and Second Affirmative vs. First and Second Negative)
First Affirmative constructive: State thesis and preview main points, define key terms, make arguments – 2-3 minutes
First Negative constructive: State thesis and preview main points, define key terms, make arguments – 2-3 minutes
Second Affirmative constructive: State thesis and preview main points, make arguments, begin to directly address First Negative arguments – 2-3 minutes
Second Negative constructive: State thesis and preview main points, make arguments, begin to directly address Second Affirmative arguments – 2-3 minutes
Break – 1 minute
First Negative rebuttal: Rebuild case by continuing to address Affirmative arguments and reinforcing your arguments with additional evidence and reasoning – 1-1.5 minutes
First Affirmative rebuttal: Rebuild case by addressing Negative arguments and reinforcing your arguments with additional evidence and reasoning - 1-1.5 minutes
Second Negative rebuttal: Last negative speech! Rebuild case and note arguments the Affirmative has not answered. - 1-1.5 minutes
Second Affirmative rebuttal: Last affirmative speech! Rebuild case and note arguments the Negative has not answered. - 1-1.5 minutes

1 on 1 (Affirmative vs. Negative)
Affirmative constructive: State thesis and preview main points, define key terms, make arguments - 2-3 minutes
Negative constructive: State thesis and preview main points, define key terms, make arguments - 2-3 minutes
Break – 30 seconds
Negative rebuttal 1: Rebuild case by addressing Affirmative arguments and reinforcing your arguments with additional evidence and reasoning – 0.5 – 0.75 minute
Affirmative rebuttal 1: Rebuild case by addressing Negative arguments and reinforcing your arguments with additional evidence and reasoning – 0.5 - 0.75 minute
Break – 30 seconds
Negative rebuttal 2: Last speech! Rebuild case and note arguments the Affirmative has not answered. - 0.5 – 0.75 minute
Affirmative rebuttal 2: Last speech! Rebuild case and note arguments the Negative has not answered. - 0.5 – 0.75 minute

1 on 1 on 1 (Affirmative vs. Negative 1 vs. Negative 2)
Affirmative constructive: State thesis and preview main points, define key terms, make arguments - 2-3 minutes
Negative 1 constructive: State thesis and preview main points, define key terms, make arguments, begin to directly address Affirmative arguments - 2-3 minutes
Negative 2 constructive: State thesis and preview main points, define key terms, make arguments, begin to directly address Affirmative and Negative 1 arguments - 2-3 minutes
Break – 30 seconds
Negative 2 rebuttal 1: Rebuild case by addressing Negative 1 and Affirmative arguments and reinforcing your arguments with additional evidence and reasoning - 0.5 – 0.75 minute
Negative 1 rebuttal 1: Rebuild case by addressing Negative 2 and Affirmative arguments and reinforcing your arguments with additional evidence and reasoning – 0.5 – 0.75 minute
Affirmative rebuttal 1: Rebuild case by addressing Negative 1 and 2 arguments and reinforcing your arguments with additional evidence and reasoning – 0.5 – 0.75 minute
Break – 30 seconds
Negative 2 rebuttal 2: Last speech! Rebuild case and note arguments Negative 1 and Affirmative have not answered. - 0.5 – 0.75 minute - 0.5 – 0.75 minute
Negative 1 rebuttal 2: Last speech! Rebuild case and note arguments Negative 2 and Affirmative have not answered. - 0.5 – 0.75 minute – 0.5 – 0.75 minute
Affirmative rebuttal 2: Last speech! Rebuild case and note arguments Negative 1 and 2 have not answered. - 0.5 – 0.75 minute – 0.5 – 0.75 minute