

**EVALUATING DEBATES/DISCUSSIONS ABOUT
"ISSUES OF THE WEEK" POLITICAL SCIENCE 102, FALL 2003**

Name: _____

Date: _____

Debate Topic: _____

Pre-debate questions: Before attending class, read the selections on both sides of the issue of the week, and type below one question that you think is the most penetrating, important, and informative question that can be asked of supporters of that position. Once you have entered one question for representatives of each side, print this form and bring it with you to class. You can fill in the post-debate evaluation after the debate/discussion for the day is over and hand it in on your way out of class.

Post-debate evaluation: In about three sentences, address the following questions at the close of the discussion section on the topic discussed, and then hand in this form to your instructor. (1) What in your opinion was the most persuasive, best-defended argument on the issue of the week that was made during today's discussion? (2) Which argument made today was least persuasive, and most unconvincingly defended? (3) Did the discussion/debate today have any impact on your thinking about this issue? That is, did it provide you with any new information or insights that either made you even more persuaded in support of the position you originally favored, or information and insights, to the contrary, which made you at least consider changing your position? To which information or insights do you refer?