

# Course Outline

<b>Course number</b>	RBE275				
<b>Course title</b>	<b>Policy Debate</b>				
<b>Credit points</b>	3 ECTS (2 CP)				
<b>Total hours</b>	30				
<b>Lecture hours</b>	12				
<b>Seminar and other hours</b>	18				
<b>Course level</b>	Bachelor				
<b>Prerequisites</b>	None				
<b>Category</b>	Mandatory		<b>Restricted elective</b>	<b>X</b>	Free elective

## **COURSE RESPONSIBLE**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Academic degree</b>	<b>Academic position</b>
Otto Tabuns	B.S.Sc.	Guest Lecturer

## **COURSE TEACHERS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Academic degree</b>	<b>Academic position</b>
Otto Tabuns	B.S.Sc.	Guest Lecturer
Jeffrey Grinvalds	M.A.	Guest Lecturer

## **COURSE ABSTRACT**

*The course is focused on developing communication skills on public policy through debate, important in law, politics and business. Study course is divided into two parts. The first part will be based on lectures which will introduce students with basic knowledge on how to argue a given policy. The second part will be based on individual and collective training.*

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

*The objective of the course is to obtain knowledge of promoting a selected or given policy through debate by practising how to develop, put forward, cross examine and refute arguments of either side. The most significant part of the course will be devoted to the development of practical skills and the analysis of personal and peer debate performance.*

## GRADING CRITERIA

Criteria	Weighting
Exam	35%
Active participation	50%
Written assignments	15%

## COURSE PLAN – MAIN SUBJECTS

No.	Main subjects	Planned hours
1	Rhetoric and argumentation	4
2	Principles, formats and strategies of public debates	4
3	Practical debate preparation and presentation	18
4	Debate analysis and individual/collective evaluation	4

## COURSE PLAN – SESSIONS

Session	Session subjects and readings	Lecture/seminar
1	Introduction. Rhetoric and argumentation.	L
2	Debate principles, formats and strategies.	L
3	Practical exercise	S
4	Debate evaluation and frequent mistakes	L
5	Practical exercise	S
6	Policy debate in the European Union	L
7	Practical exercise	S
8	Policy debate in Latvia	L
9	Practical exercise	S
10	Practical exercise	S
11	Policy debate in the United States	L
12	Practical exercise	S
13	Practical exercise	S
14	Practical exercise	S
15	Practical exercise & Lessons learned	S

**COURSE LITERATURE**

<b>No.</b>	<b><i>Author, title, publisher</i></b>
<b>Mandatory reading materials</b>	
1	Course compendium