**Topics and Requirements**:

Applied Ethics Debate Issue Selection

Topics & Key Questions:

**Capital Punishment – morally Wrong**

* + - Is it morally permissible for the State to execute its civilians?
    - Does the Death Penalty have a deterrent effect upon would be criminals?

*Part One - Position Defense* Posting

* Type up your *Position Defense*
  + This will be in essay form.
  + The length will be determined by the arguments you choose to present, but it should at least be 500 words. Remember you are trying to persuade people as to the truth of your position, so you should make sure that you are clearly explaining and supporting the claims that you are making to support your position. Also, the better the essay is crafted, the more easily your readers will be able to follow your train of thought. Rhetoric can come in handy, but it should not be at the expense of clarity in the support for your argumentation. As a general guide, you should aim for approximately 4 pages (double-spaced, 12 pt. font).
  + You must formulate ***at least* 3 arguments** that support your position. Clearly identify them within your essay (e.g. “my first argument,” “firstly,” etc.).
  + **At least 1 argument** must specifically reference one of the readings associated with the topic. You can choose to either explain and further support one of the readings’ arguments or choose an opposing argument to evaluate and criticize.

Part 2 - *Rebuttal to the Opposition* Posting

* Type up your *Rebuttal to the Opposition*
  + This will also be in essay form.
  + The length will be determined by the arguments you choose to address and critique, but the rebuttal should not be less than 350 words. Again, the better the essay is crafted, the more easily your readers will be able to follow your train of thought. Be careful that you do not mistake rhetoric for reasoning when you are analyzing your opponent’s case.