Rubric for the Debate:

Understanding and comprehension:

1) Poor/Minimal
   a. poor understanding of the controversial question and the point of the debate
   b. could not identify the problem
   c. does not understand the wider implications of the problem
   d. does not incorporate any of the material or readings exposed to in the course
   e. lack of understanding of sociological concepts and theories is obvious

2) Some/Limited
   a. somewhat understood the controversial question and the point of the debate
   b. touched the problem in a limited manner
   c. some understanding of the wider implications of the problem
   d. some connection to the course material and readings but not the right ones
      (elaborates on unnecessary points/irrelevant material)
   e. there is some understanding of sociological concepts and theories

3) Acceptable
   a. understood but did not fully cover the controversial question and the point of the debate
   b. touched the problem but did not deal with it exhaustively
   c. understood most of the wider implications
   d. connects with relevant course material and readings
   e. there is a fair amount of understanding of sociological concepts and theories

4) Excellent
   a. excellent understanding of the controversial question and the point of the debate
   b. identified and dealt with the problem fully
   c. excellent understanding of the wider implications of the problem
   d. excellent incorporation of the appropriate material and readings
   e. demonstrates proper understanding of sociological concepts and theories

Argumentation:

1) Poor/Minimal
   a. not convincing at all
   b. unfamiliar with the argument at stake
   c. illogical
   d. contradicts himself/herself and own team
   e. unconcerned with the debate

2) Some/Limited
   a. persuasive at times
   b. somewhat familiar with the argument to be made but sounds rehearsed and detached
   c. sometimes illogical
   d. sounds argumentative but not really competent
   e. somewhat concerned with the debate but does not debate well
3) **Acceptable**
   a. persuasive
   b. familiar with the argument at stake
   c. logical most of the time
   d. argumentative but repetitive
   e. concerned with the debate and somewhat challenges the opposition

4) **Excellent**
   a. very persuasive
   b. very familiar with the argument at stake
   c. very logical
   d. argues constructively
   e. very concerned with the debate, challenges the opposition effectively, asks meaningful questions and debates efficiently

**Time management:**

1) **Poor/Minimal**
   a. fails to meet time constraints and wastes time
   b. does not follow the stages of the debate
   c. goes overboard or finishes too quickly
   d. incapable of responding quickly to questions asked

2) **Some/Limited**
   a. used the time constraints but not efficiently
   b. sometimes carries points from one stage to the next
   c. finished on time but with major gaps in the presentation
   d. can somehow respond to questions but takes time

3) **Acceptable**
   a. time is used adequately
   b. followed the structure of the debate
   c. respected the time constraints but forgot some major points
   d. somewhat in command when it comes to responding to questions

4) **Excellent**
   a. excellent use of time
   b. followed the structure of the debate efficiently
   c. respected the time limit and was able to include all what needed to be said
   d. masters on the spot situations and responds competently to the opposition

**Oral skills:**

1) **Poor/Minimal**
   a. incomprehensible
   b. unengaging
   c. constantly pauses and there are awkward gaps
   d. reads from notes
   e. unfamiliar with the material presented
2) **Some/Limited**
   a. somewhat clear
   b. somewhat focused but not engaging
   c. pauses occasionally and is too nervous to present adequately
   d. reads from notes most of the time
   e. somewhat familiar with the material presented but loses train of thought

3) **Acceptable**
   a. clear
   b. focused and engages the audience
   c. pauses rarely
   d. looks at notes occasionally
   e. familiar with the material presented

4) **Excellent**
   a. very clear (communicates effectively with the audience)
   b. focused, captivating and engaging
   c. there is a good flow when the student is presenting
   d. doesn’t use notes
   e. very familiar with the material presented

**Teamwork:**

1) **Poor/Minimal**
   a. no collaboration amongst team members
   b. unfair division of work
   c. uninformed of debate strategy
   d. excessive input from some members of the team and not at all from others
   e. disrespectful to peers

2) **Some/Limited**
   a. some collaboration amongst team members
   b. tasks are divided during the debate but it is obvious that not all members have done the work
   c. team mates are somewhat informed of debate strategy but do not stick to it
   d. do not work well as a team because of individualistic attitudes, demonstrate competitiveness even with own team members
   e. respect towards peers is not a priority

3) **Acceptable**
   a. Fair amount of collaboration amongst team members
   b. work was divided but some contribute more than others
   c. all informed of debate strategy
   d. some harmony between team members
   e. mostly respectful towards one another

4) **Excellent**
   a. excellent collaboration amongst team members
   b. equal division of work and responsibilities
   c. all informed of debate strategy and work together to win
   d. excellent harmony between team members
   e. very respectful towards team members as well as the opposition