Feedback on Presentations
Overall

• Very good presentations
• Here are the grades:
  – 4.86
  – 4.69
  – 4.63
  – 4.56
  – 4.52
  – 4.47
Presentation Content (The good)

• Everyone had an interesting thesis and did a reasonable job of explaining their thesis and justifying it

• Good things:
  – Defining and/or reviewing terms and/or context at the beginning of the presentation
  – Presenting arguments to justify your position
  – Credits for sources at the end of the presentation
Presentation Content (Weak)

• “Because it’s so” arguments
  – Not justified.
  – Ask yourself: What kind of argument are you making?
    • Kantian: This is a universal truth! The alternative is unworkable!
    • Utilitarian: On balance, we are (society is) better off.
    • Social Contract: That’s the way we’ve decided as a society to do it.
  – Also ask: Who feels differently and why?
    • Explore the alternative positions. Provide arguments as to why you believe they are invalid.
Mechanics

• Enthusiasm is good
  – An enthusiastic presentation is much more persuasive

• Be comfortable with your definitions and examples
  – Talk through your presentation
  – Think through short definitions/explanations for terms, organizations that you don’t explain on your slides
  – Examples: Make sure you are comfortable with the examples you choose to use and that they are appropriate

• Watch out for nervous habits
Media

• Use of pictures, figures, etc. was excellent
• Proof read your presentations for typos, etc., etc.
Feedback on Feedback

• Everyone was weaker in some areas and stronger in others
  – Nobody was flawless in everything!
• Your evaluation of other speakers should account for that.
• Next time – you will have an opportunity to provide additional comments on the other presentations