

Don't be scared, it's just a Kritik!!
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Day 1

- I. What is a Critique???
 - a. A Critique, first, should be recognized as just another off case argument. Nothing to be scared of, it is just another simple argument. The argument simply, establishes that the fundamental assumptions made by the other team are false or irreversible. This seems very complex, however its not. The critique will get easier to understand as you understand a specific critique, like Foucault, Agamben, or Zizek.
 - b. The Structure of a Kritik:
 - i. Link: What gets you from the plan to the critique, this is self explanatory.
 - ii. Implications: These are the impacts of the K.
 - iii. Alternative: This is kind of like a counterplan text. It is the alternative of the status quo and the method the affirmative takes. However, it can be just simply rejection.

- II. What are the different types of Critiques??
 - a. "Dirty Word" Kritik- This type of critique is one in which the team runs because their opponent uses it or fails to use it. An Example of this type is : Terror Talk and Feminism.
 - b. Assumption Kritik- This type of critique attacks the assumptions of the opponent. For example, like the negative reads Realism, which is the assumption of International Relations in the Status Quo, the affirmative's response can be Threat Construction. Threat Con is the biggest example of this type of Critique. Threat Con says the assumptions of a threat are bad, and that threats actually don't do anything. So, the threat of international relations assumption doesn't do anything.
 - c. Structural Kritik- This type of critique is where the team running the K is basing it off the structure of the case/neg strategy. An example of the critique is Militarism. For instance the negative team can run a Militarism critique, if the affirmative claims to solve for hegemony, which kind of militarizes, there fore it links. The Critique is just based on the structure.

 - d. Structural Assumption Critique- This is a combination of b and c... These are the most common critiques. Examples are Foucault, Spanos, and Imperialism. These critiques are the critiques you will usually hear in a round. Most of the time, they use one person's specific philosophy on a certain issue and just expand. Empire is also an example, it uses Hardt and Negri for the critique.

III. So, how do you answer a Critique??

- a. MOST IMPORTANT: Treat the Critique like a Disadvantage and a Counterplan. The parts of a critique, talked about in the first part of this lecture go back to this exact treating. Also, try to get your confusion out in cross-x. For example, in cross examination, ask how the alternative solves, not just what it is, how it works.
- b. What are the different types of arguments:
 - i. Perm!!!- Permutation, the combination of ideologies. This should be one of the first answers on the flow. The perm is usually the alternative and plan text, however make it specific to the critique, not just... Do both.
 - ii. No Link- You can make this argument, if you really don't link. You can argue that just simply by working through the UN, doesn't mean anything.
 - iii. Impact Turn: This works best on critiques like Capitalism and Imperialism. You would say like how capitalism is actually great, and it increases economic benefits. Another popular example is... on a Foucault Critique, run Balbus 85 which says, Foucauldian discourse ignores gender perspectives, therefore opening up another type of argument I will get to last.
 - iv. Link Turn: Don't run number three and four together. That means you have double turned yourself, dummy. A link turn will turn the link and the plan will solve the impacts. Good thing.
 - v. No Alternative: If rejection is the alternative, there really is no alternative to the status quo. You should argue that there is no alternative. If the affirmative harm is substantial, the plan is largely solvent, and the critique has uniqueness problems, press the negative to defend what their alternative to the plan and the present system will be. If there is no alternative, then it makes uniqueness arguments against the critique that much more valuable.
 - vi. Impact Defense: This is an interesting term that basically is like impacts empirically denied. This is saying that the impacts would have already happened if it were true.
 - vii. Aff Case is a DA to the Alternative: This basically means that the alternative can not solve the case.

viii. Finally, you can counter critique the argument. This argument works best on critiques like Empire. The counter kritik to empire is Eurocentrism. Whereas like I said earlier, the Balbus 85 card can be used as the link in a counter kritik to Foucault of Gender/Feminism.

Day 2

- IV. To be well with Critiques, you need to know the definition of words and the definition of the critique!!!
You may still need another sheet of paper for additional notes
- a. Epistemology- This is the study of knowledge. "How do you know what we know?" This can be the foundation for a critique like Mimesis and Realism.
 - b. Ontology/Deontology- "Study of Being." Ontology is the study of existence. This is usually an alternative to a critique. The opposite is Deontology. This is the type of morals that focus on the ideal not the actuality of things.
 - c. Consequentialism/ Utilitarianism- First with Consequentialism, it is a critical stance against disadvantages. Authors for this include Camus and Callahan. They say that the process of inaction just leads to individual and governmental tyranny. This is also used as the Biggest Impacts argument, you vote for the biggest impacts in the round. Utilitarianism is an argument that says that the affirmative takes a utopian approach to debate, by trying to solve problems associated with the status quo. Utilitarianism asks the judge to weigh advantages vs. disadvantages. This causes destruction and they argue we should be more focused on the value of life rather than how many people we save.
 - d. Postmodernism- Postmodernism is an artistic, architectural, philosophical, and cultural movement or condition, said to arise after and in reaction to modernism. Postmodernism rejects boundaries between high and low forms of art, rejecting rigid genre distinctions, emphasizing pastiche, parody, bricolage, irony, and playfulness. Postmodern theorists have traditionally concerned themselves most fundamentally with an attack on positivistic, macro phenomenological theory. According to these theorists, attempts to construct "grand theory," as identified by C. Wright Mills, necessarily dismiss the naturally existing "chaos and disorder" of the universe, placing it in an arbitrary framework which, in the words of Michel Foucault, fails to "respect...differences". Employing a Nietzschean, perspectivist approach, postmodernists argue for the existence of a multiplicity of theoretical standpoints, addressing the relationship of the individual to the phenomenon, rather than trying to place either into a broader schema. In this way, postmodernist thought emphasizes the need for microtheory dealing with the nature of "difference," rather than holistic macrotheory.
 - e. Psychoanalysis- This author is most famous for his wacky cards, Žižek. He is crazy. His evidence and writings include stories of fathers raping

their daughters, etc. This is the study of the human mind desires. The critique argues that the affirmative attempts to create the construction of a fantasy world. This opens up an imperfect relationship between the fantasy and real world. Without this, it will cause genocide like in the era of the Nazis. The Alternative is to reject and alter the relationship of the fantasy and real world.

- f. Capitalism/Marxism- You study this in world history and US History. This is where everything is determined by the economy. This is Karl Marx's theory. Authors of this are Salvetti, Trainer, Blackie, and Bookchin. This will be ran on case as well as off case. Usually negative teams will claim that Capitalism is bad.
- g. Pre-Fiat- Let's define this using Latin, it means before fiat. Therefore you examine this before Fiat arguments such as T and Plan. Authors of pre fiat are Kettels and Kaplan. Many affirmative cases nowadays are gaining pre fiat implications that come before anything else.
- h. Security/Realism- Security K, also known as Securitization, says that the affirmative tries to secure the world. This justifies going into other countries which causes imperialism. The main author for this is Dillon. The Realism argument will probably be one of the most generic kritiks of the year. Realism argues that humans are ugly on the inside. Also, that nothing is higher than the state, and States act rationally, and state institutions are anarchical. Realists feel that the United Nations are ineffective, the UN is a State Institution. Authors for Realism include Kegley Jr, Bleiker, and Wendt.
- i. Militarism- The question Militarism makes you ask is, "Is it okay to use the military to get things done?" This argument was explained in detail on Thursday by Janelle.
- j. Statism- This says that the State is bad, not states like Georgia but States as in like The United Nations. This also trades off with capitalism.
- k. Bio Power- A key part of Foucault/Bio Power is panopticism. You may be like well, what is a panoptic? Foucault gives the example of the panopticon a place power is present but accepted, and hence facilitated. The idea of the panopticon was popularized by English philosopher Jeremy Bentham. In this panopticon, Bentham imagines a system in which discipline is maintained not because someone is always watching a prisoner but because the prisoner never knows when he is or is not under surveillance. Bentham argues that since the prisoner never knows when he or she is being watched, the prisoner begins to accept unconditionally the restrictions that he or she is placed under. These conditions are

something that are unconditionally accepted. Whitaker (1999) explains: "The Panopticon is a kind of theater; what is staged is "the illusion of constant surveillance: the prisoners are not really always under surveillance, they just think or imagine that they are." The point is discipline or training. As the prisoners fear that they may be constantly watched, and fear punishment for transgression, they internalize the rules; actual punishment will thus be rendered superfluous (p. 33)" Using Latin again, this means power over life. Biopower theorists come from Michel Foucault and Agamben's arguments. The first real argument of Foucauldian discourse is bio power. Foucault argues that Bio Power is bad because once the State starts to intervene in the management of the population, they become intertwined indirectly. Also, that the acceptance of biopower is responsible for recent wars and the power to annihilate people.

- l. Disaster Porn/Compassion Fatigue- The Disaster Porn kritik argues that it is bad to make a spectacle out of suffering in other countries and that those descriptions of suffering are motivated by economic gain. Dehumanization and donor fatigue are often the result.
Answer specific questions.
- m. Empire- The "Empire Kritik" is drawn from an academically popular book by Antonio Hardt and Michael Negri that is simply entitled Empire. This is the most confusing critique ever.