**Expectations for the House Floor**

Decorum

* Only one person should be speaking at a time.
* Members always address the chair, not other members
  + *"Mr. Chairman (e.g.), the distinguished gentleman from Arkansas is mistaken."*
* Always refer to others by the state they represent, not by their names.

Speaking

* The Chair is required to recognize the first member to stand and say, *“Mr. Chairman”* or *“Ms. Chairman”.*
* A member who wishes to speak stands and waits to be recognized by the chair. If the member is not called on, they sit down. The chair will say, *“For what purpose does the gentleman/gentlelady from (state) rise?”* Then, you have some options:
  + You can comment on the bill.
  + You can propose an amendment:
    - *“I wish to amend the bill/amendment by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”*
  + You can ask for a vote:
    - Motion to end debate: This ends debate on an amendment or a bill and brings up an immediate vote if there is a majority of the House that is ready.
      * *“I move to end debate on this bill/amendment.”*
    - Move the previous question: This ends all debate on the bill as a whole, even if amendments are still being proposed.
      * *“I move the previous question”*

Bill Debates (based in part on actual House procedure with modifications to allow for more participation)

* The Chair will start by reading the bill to everyone.
* You can then offer amendments or comments.
* You must explain the reasoning for your amendment.
* If you want to end the debate and vote on the bill, rise and move the previous question.

Grading (20 points):

* During the course of the week, you must participate in a debate and speak on three separate occasions. Your participation could include arguing in a debate or offering a thoughtful amendment and your reasoning for it. You can speak multiple times during one debate, or spread out your participation throughout the week.