Welcome & Vision

Good [evening]. My name is [your name], and I'm a [year/program, e.g., "a junior" or "a graduate student in psychology"] here at [school]. On behalf of the Forum planning team, I'd like to welcome you to The Veritas Forum tonight. Thank you for coming. [pause in case of applause]

The first-ever Veritas Forum happened in 1992. It was planned by students [like me and you]: students with questions about life, their academic studies, and their faith — students who wanted to ask those questions in light of *Veritas*, which is Latin for truth.

In that spirit, we have come together tonight to seek truth together as we ask life's most challenging questions and explore our deepest beliefs.

Our hope tonight is that this event serves as a starting point to explore and test our worldviews together. We would love to see [the name of your college or university] grow as a place where we can foster a culture of honest consideration and respect with people who hold different views. Our simple challenge and next step for each person here is [to sign up for a coffee chat when you fill out the survey at the end of the forum. You'll be matched with a peer who has a different worldview, and we'll send you a great conversation starter to help kick things off. Later tonight when you fill out the survey, please join us in learning how to have these conversations more often and more intentionally by signing up to be paired up with a peer for a coffee chat.]

Agenda

Tonight, as we consider [topic/question of the Forum], first we are going to hear from [speaker name 1], followed immediately by [speaker name 2]. Then [moderator name] will ask both speakers a few questions before we move into a time of audience Q&R. We call it Q&R for "question and response" because, although we're committed to seeking truth, we recognize that our search must be marked with humility.

Introductions

Please adapt this section as needed. There are other ways to introduce speakers.

Now I'd like to take a moment to introduce our moderator for the evening, [moderator name].

> [insert short bio of the moderator]

Please join me in welcoming [moderator name]. [applause]

I'd also like to introduce our speakers, [speaker name 1] and [speaker name 2].

> [insert short bios of speakers]

Please join me in welcoming them. [applause]

Survey Completion (Right after Q & R)

This has been such a wonderful conversation. The Forum planning team hopes that every Veritas Forum we host is relevant, engaging, thought-provoking, and respectful—and we need your help with that. We would love to know what you thought about this event! On the slide [above me], you can scan a QR code that will take you to a brief survey. It only takes two minutes. Be sure to complete it and leave us your email address, so you'll be entered for a chance to win a $50 Amazon gift card. Plus, if you're a student here at [name of school or institution], you can find out how to have coffee on The Veritas Forum.

Please take a moment to complete the Google survey linked on [QR code slide]. We'll only use your email for one of the two options: if you indicate that you want to continue the conversation, or if you indicate that you want to help plan the next Forum.

[pause for 120 seconds]

Conclusion

Before you leave, we'd like to say thank you. Putting on an event like this takes a village! We're grateful to our co-sponsors, [list of cosponsors goes here], for their support and time.

We're also grateful to the three of you, [speaker names here], for sharing your time, insight, and wisdom with us this evening. Please join me in thanking them once again.

Last, I'd like to invite everyone to continue the conversation after the event concludes. [Insert information about a post-Forum reception or post-Forum discussion opportunities.]

Thank you again for joining us to explore the ideas that shape our lives.