

Community

Faculty Guide

FRAMING

This lesson serves to frame the curriculum that students will engage. It prompts students to consider both the benefits and challenges associated with team science, suggests that thriving community is key to successful team endeavors, and invites students to begin the process of identifying and employing practices and personal character traits that promote team success.

DEFINITION

Community – connecting with each other in authentic and loving ways

POSSIBLE STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students should be able to:

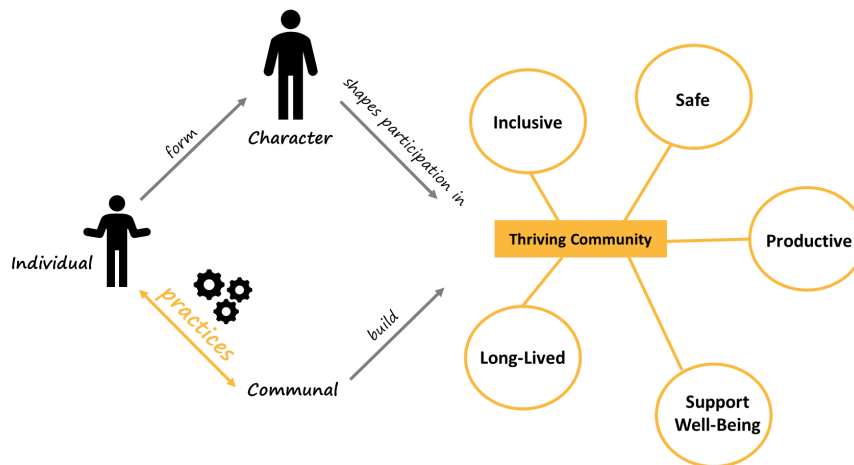
- Describe necessary components and common barriers to success/productivity in teams
- Define key elements of a thriving community
- Discuss how a thriving community can help overcome barriers to success in team science
- Articulate ways by which practices contribute to the development of a thriving community

KEY CONCEPTS DISCUSSED IN STUDENT MATERIALS

Observations of faith-based intentional communities suggest that the key to facilitating the productive sharing and exchange of resources and ideas in collaborative settings, and limiting the impact of challenges, is *thriving community*.



A thriving community, characterized by safety, inclusivity, longevity, member well-being, and productivity, is created through practices, both communal and individual. Communal practices help to build a thriving community and individual practices help to form character and shape community participation and team success.



Identifying and employing individual and community practices that promote effective work in team settings and developing personal character traits that enhance collaborative efforts are valuable goals for students.

STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS

- 1) Complete the VIA Strengths Survey (and download report); *faculty mentors are encouraged to complete the survey as well.* <https://www.viacharacter.org/survey/account/register>
- 2) Look for challenges of team problem solving discussed – where do you see them or potential for them in your own space?

STUDENT JOURNALING PROMPTS

- What is community and what is its role in a team setting?
- What challenges or potentials for challenges did you observe in your team? What might happen if those challenges are not addressed?
- What strengths do you bring that will contribute to a thriving community? What are potential barriers to you participating well in your community?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Faculty may want to discuss the logistics/rhythm of the curriculum in their particular space (and explain the value of setting aside time for this learning in their curriculum).
- Share VIA results to learn more about one another.
- How can we use our individual strengths to encourage one another and build community?
- Where do you see team challenges (or potential for challenges) in this space (NOTE: This could include things learned from VIA results). *Faculty can discuss challenges they have encountered in their own spaces or in previous years (as students or as mentors).*