

Discussion	Debate	Dialogue
Conceptual and/or conversational	Competitive	Collaborative, towards a sense of community understanding
Present ideas, often in a “clean” or “sophisticated” way	Succeed or win, often by proving others’ logic to be ‘wrong’	Re-evaluate and acknowledge assumptions and biases.
Share information, seek ‘neutral’ conclusions	Focus on ‘right’ and ‘wrong’ through evidence	Bring out areas of ambivalence
Seek answers and solutions	Look for weakness	Look for shared meanings
Give answers, often those in accordance with academic standards	Search for flaws in others’ logic; critique their position	Discover collective meaning; reexamine and destabilize long held ideas
Listen, in order to find places of disagreement or to gather rational pieces of an argument	Listen, in order to form counterarguments	Listen without judgment and with a view to understand
Avoid areas of strong conflict and difference	Focus on conflict and difference as an advantage	Articulate areas of conflict and difference
Retain relationships	Disregard relationships	Build relationships
Avoid silence	Use silence to gain advantage	Honor silence