

Yellowdig Discussion: Week 2

Our Yellowdig community can be accessed through our BrightSpace course page under 'Content and Activities', then 'Yellowdig'. Online discussions using Yellowdig are an important part of this class and the point earning rules can be found here:

[Point earning rules for Yellowdig discussions.](#)

----->Please do not use AI to write posts.<-----

The discussion questions for each are below. These are intended to start conversations but you are encouraged to discuss any aspect of the readings or assigned material.

All posts must use a 'Topic' from the pulldown list in yellowdig, e.g., **Discussion Questions for Week 2** or **Get Help from Others**.

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Week 2: Discussion Questions

For this week, please make a post in Yellowdig that responds to any of the questions below from our reading of Emanuel's book 'What we know about climate change' and the documentary 'An Inconvenient Truth'.

1. What are some balancing and reinforcing feedbacks in the climate system? Which do you think are dominant and why? What does this mean for stability of the climate system? (E Ch 1,3)
2. What is the Gaia hypothesis and how might it operate? Do you think it's real? Why? (E Ch 1)
3. How do scientists use computer models to distinguish between natural and man-made variability in the climate system? How much confidence should we have in results from these models? Support your answer. (E Ch 4)
4. What are the extremes of climate (e.g., temperature) that the Earth has experienced? Provide some details/description of these two extremes. How did the Earth slip into and escape these extreme climate states? (E Ch 1)

5. Describe two positive and two negative impacts of climate change. Do you think the positives are likely to outweigh the negatives? Explain. (E Ch 5)

6. "We are humbled by a sense of ignorance." How should this influence the resulting debate regarding climate change? Explain. (E Ch 5)

7. List and briefly describe 3 'certain findings' and 3 'most likely findings' regarding climate change. (E Ch 6)

8. Describe three broad categories of response to climate change. Describe the positives and negatives associated with each response to climate change. (E Ch 7)

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