

Discussion Templates for Elearning

Discussion Templates

Do you just want a template that you can copy, paste, and modify? Check out the discussion templates below and use as you please. These templates are written for the online space, but can be used in a face-to-face, hybrid, or flex course to boost student discussion between classes or in preparation for class activities.

Connecting to Recent Journal Articles

Discussion Prompt: Use recently published articles from reputable journals to build upon course content, make connections to recent research and events, and further learning and discussion.

Initial Post: Due by midnight on Thursday

- Visit one of the reputable journal sites I have provided to find an article, published in the last two years, that relates to this module.
- Give an overview of the article and discuss why it is relevant to this module, using concepts from the article and the module readings/lectures/videos.
- Be sure you cite the article and provide the DOI or link.
- Important note! Do not use an article that a co-learner has already posted. Please contact the librarian if you are having difficulty, they are here to help.

Response Posts: Due by midnight on Sunday

- Choose 2 other classmates to respond to.
- Discuss what you understand about the reading based on what they have posted, and any new insights about the reading.
- Ask questions or share your thoughts on what they have posted.

What is the Question to This Answer?

Discussion Prompt: Provide questions that could be asked to come up with the answers provided.

Initial Post: Due by midnight on Tuesday

- Post a question for the answer posted below
- Start a NEW discussion thread, and post an answer that relates to our course. (Do not repeat what someone else has posted)

Response Posts: Due by midnight on Sunday

Do not post before Thursday.

- Read and provide questions to at least 4 of your classmates answers.

Case Studies and Scenario Response

Prompt: Using the information you have learned in this module, you will respond to a scenario of your choice.

Initial Post: Due by midnight on Tuesday

- Read the scenarios.
- Select 1 to which you will respond.
- Explain how you will... (insert course specific connecting question here)
- Explain your strategies and approach to the situation, citing information in this module.

Response Posts: Due by midnight on Sunday

- Respond to at least 2 classmates posts.
- Follow up discussion questions must do at least one of the following:
- Identify important ideas in the response and relate them to course content
- Pose questions you may have about the response
- Respond with any new insights or further connections
- Share your thoughts on what they have posted using evidence to back up your claims

Word Cloud and Discussion

Prompt: What do think of when you hear these terms? _____, _____, _____...etc.

Initial Post: Due by midnight on Tuesday

- Create a list of words that come to mind when you hear the term "_____" or "_____". Free thought association, no Googling allowed! A list of 10-15 words at least.
- "Start a new thread" and Post your list to discussion.
- (Instructor will create and post class word cloud based on your word lists by Friday.)

Response Posts: Due by midnight on Sunday

- Review the word cloud and other posts to address the question:
- What bias' have I held or observed in society towards "_____" "_____" "_____"?
- How might this impact work in my professional environment?
- Then, read and respond to at least two of your peers on the discussion board.

Response to Team Presentations in Two Parts

Discussion Prompt: Read and respond to team presentations.

Team Presentations Post: Due by midnight on Monday

After submitting your project to the dropbox, Post a link to your team project.

1. Start a new thread
2. Title the post with the name of the project and the names of your group members.
3. Post a link to your team project

Initial Post: Due by midnight on Wednesday

4. Read through each of the projects
5. Choose 2 other groups to respond to and consider the following:
 - What new learning occurred?
 - What questions do you have?
 - How does the information presented relate to readings or experiences you may have had?
 - Any additional thoughts, questions, concerns.

Follow-up Posts: Due by midnight on Sunday

After reading through team presentations and responding to 2 other groups

6. Start a new thread, titled with your name, and answer the following:
 - What _____?
 - How _____?
 - What are one or two strategies/approaches related to these team projects and the course readings that you may be able to implement into your own professional environment?

The Crux of the Matter

Instructions:

- You will see four new threads entered in the topic: **Sentences, Phrases, Words, and Insights**. This discussion should take 3 days.
 - First round: Post a **sentence** from the reading that you feel is particularly significant in the Sentences thread. Each new post must be unique; in other words, if a sentence has already been posted, it should not be posted again.
 - Second round: Share a **phrase** that you feel is particularly significant in the Phrases thread. Each new post must be unique; in other words, if a phrase has already been posted, it should not be posted again.
 - Third round: Post a **word** that you feel is particularly significant in the Words thread. Each new post must be unique; in other words, if a word has already been posted, it should not be posted again.
 - In the Insights thread, your group will discuss what they understand about the reading based on what everyone has posted, and any new **insights** about the reading.

Pre-Knowledge: Topic Title Here

Prompt:

- What do you know about _____?

Instructions:

Initial Post:

- Start a New Thread to post your answers to the discussion board.
- Read the responses of your peers - you cannot repeat facts!

- List and describe three facts that you know about _____.
- As you read through what is posted ask yourself:
 - Are all the facts taken?
 - What do you wish you knew?
 - What are some "facts" you have heard that you find questionable?

Response Post:

Read and respond to at least two of your peers on the discussion board keeping the following in mind:

- What questions do you have about the facts presented?
- Do you have input on any of the questionable facts that were posted?
- What modern-day, current events, etc. align with or relate to _____?
- Any other thoughts, questions, comments, or concerns

Initial Post: Due by 11:30pm Friday

Response Post: Due by 11:30pm Sunday

*Refer to the Discussion Rubric for this course for further detail regarding post and response expectations.

Student Led Article Discussion

For this discussion, you are responsible for finding an article from a (name relevant publications where students should look) that was published within the last month. The article should be on a topic relevant to this module.

Initial Post:

- Provide a link to the article
- Briefly describe what it is about using your own words
- Briefly describe how it connects with or contextualize it to the topic, readings
- Pose a thinking question for your colleagues that helps to guide conversation around your article.
- Note that the article you select should be from a daily or weekly periodical, not a journal. The goal is to relate current issues/topics to material we cover in the class.

Follow-Up Posts:

- Be sure to respond to 1-2 classmates to keep the conversation going.

Make a Choice/Take a Stand Discussion

Overview:

In this discussion you will be provided with a set up in which you will be put in a situation or assigned a task, you will be asked a tough question on which you must declare your position, and then you will defend your choice by citing course readings and sources to support your position.

Prompt:

We have been learning about _____, and as we have read, there are many viewpoints on this topic.

Imagine that you are _____, and you come across this situation. What do you do? How will you approach this? Take a stance on _____.

OR

You are a _____, and you have encountered _____. What do you do? How do you respond?

OR

You have been tasked with _____. How will you approach this? How will you handle questions about _____?

Follow the format provided and engage in some healthy discussion and debate with your fellow classmates.

Instructions:

Initial Post:

- o Start a New Thread to post your answers to the discussion board.
- o Declare your position.
- o Defend your position with evidence from the reading and other credible sources.

Response Post:

- o Read and respond to at least two of your peers on the discussion board keeping the following in mind:
 - What questions do you have about the positions presented?
 - Do you have input on any of the information that was posted?
 - Do you have a counterargument?
 - Any other thoughts, questions, comments, and concerns

Initial Post: Due by 11:59pm Thursday

Response Post: Due by 11:59pm Sunday

*Refer to the Discussion Rubric for this course for further detail regarding post and response expectations.