

## Discussion Lead Assignment

**Dr Mathias Klang**  
**DTEM1401**  
**Fall 2018**

Students will be required to lead one class discussion this term. The main role of the Discussion Lead is to construct a discussion prompt/question for the class. Discussion prompts/questions should be contextualized by a 10-minute presentation on an aspect of the reading or a related topic to the reading that directs the class to think meaningfully about the discussion question.

Your presentation should not provide an in-depth review of all the reading material assigned for that class meeting. Ten minutes is not enough time to review pages of dense theoretical work. **Choose one theme or idea that stands out to you.** Relate this theme or idea to the world around us and **bring an example** of the theme/idea found in the media of the last few months.

In order to focus on the key elements we will only use 10 minutes. Additionally, to increase the discussion, there is a limitation to technology use: If you chose to use presentation software you may use no more than 3 slides. Feel free to use any other methods to enhance discussions.

### Discussion Lead Guidelines

Your presentation should not provide an in depth review of all the reading material assigned for that class meeting. Ten minutes is not enough time to review pages of dense theoretical work. Choose one theme or idea that stands out to you.

**Novice:** You could summarize an idea to the best of your ability, and then introduce a related discussion question.

**Proficient:** You could make an effort to explain the significance of an idea then and/or now, and then introduce a related discussion question.

**Advanced:** You could demonstrate how to apply an idea - perhaps by showing how it is still relevant to our lives today by making a connection to something current that exemplifies this idea, and then introduce a related discussion question.

You are expected to reference section(s) of the material that are relevant to your discussion question you want us to engage in - this is highly recommended as it is constructive to "frame" the discussion; however, you are not to overview the entirety of the course readings due that day.

You are more than welcome to quote sections of the reading to draw our attention to specific ideas.

**However:**

- Do not read verbatim the text on a slide to us - we are capable of reading it for ourselves.
- A good alternative option is to paraphrase any text written on a slide.
- The best option is to use (relevant) images, graphs, or content and then \*tell us\* what would have otherwise been written on the slide.
- Finally, try to think of questions that don't have "easy" answers but make us think about the material in constructive ways. This is a difficult assignment do not take it lightly. Be prepared and try your best. When in doubt contact me in advance.