

**Clarifications and time for questions (no headspace today).**

**Note:** These slides will be posted, and relevant clarifications will be added to the syllabus

# What can I write for my **pre-class activity**?

These are a space for you to engage with the material on your own terms.

- ✓ Quote, paraphrase or take notes on sources that sound interesting/relevant. (make sure to cite)
- ✓ Bring in other sources you like, and take notes on them
- ✓ Write down ideas, arguments, opinions, or evidence that you read about, or of your own
- ✓ Write down questions that you have
- ✓ Connect themes and ideas from your own life
- ✓ Agree or disagree with something you read
- ✓ Express discomfort with a source or with discussing / writing about a topic

# What can I write for my **post-class reflection**?

These are a space for you to engage with the material on your own terms.

- ✓ Notable in-class discussion topics or dynamics
- ✓ New ideas you encountered
- ✓ Connect class to themes and ideas from your own life
- ✓ Any other thoughts you have about today's class or the course
- ✓ Questions that you have
- ✓ Engage with the class topics further in any way (see examples) — — —

## Reflection activity options:

### Free response.

You might reflect on ideas from class you wanted to explore more deeply, write down some new things you learned or a new perspective you gained, connect something you learned to your own experience or opinion, write down something that was difficult for you, some questions you still have, or even feedback on this week's module.

### Continue the conversation.

Engage in a discussion with someone else (they do not have to be a CMU student) on a topic we discussed this week, and write up some thoughts that come out of your conversation. It may help to frame your discussion around a specific question, and then include that question explicitly in your response.

### Explore more sources.

Engage with a new source. It can be one you find on your own, or from one of the pre-class activities (not necessarily just this week's). In your reflection, discuss this source: how does it relate to this week's topic? Does it introduce a perspective or information that wasn't brought up in class?

### Engage creatively.

The arts have long been an important source of social change. Find (or create) a piece of art, a poem, a short story, or some other form of creative expression that you feel relates to the topics discussed in this week's class. In your response, consider the connection of this art with this week's course topic.

### Any synthesis activity from Section C of the Discussion Guide.

Any of the synthesis activities can be adapted to an individual activity. For example, for the skit, you can write a script; for the debate, you could write down key arguments on multiple sides.

# How can I participate in discussion?

Participation can look different for different people and on different days. That is okay, and are many options.

## Examples of ways to participate in discussion:

- ✓ Leaving your camera on
- ✓ Coming to class prepared
- ✓ Asking questions
- ✓ Sharing information you learned or bringing up sources
- ✓ Sharing your thoughts aloud or in the chat
- ✓ Actively listening to others
- ✓ Supporting or checking in with other members of your group
- ✓ Helping keep your group's discussion on-task and inclusive
- ✓ Recording ideas for your group (scribe)
- ✓ Writing down your ideas and having someone else share them
- ✓ Amplifying other's ideas that were typed in the chat

## Examples of ways not to participate:

- ✓ Doing other work during class
- ✓ Being disruptive/off-task
- ✓ Not coming prepared to class

# Other clarifications

- If for any of these slides, you did not see any options that worked for you (and you have not already discussed this with us), please email us. We will meet and work out an alternative.
- Word limits on responses are *guidelines*, we are not counting words
- You do not need to be documenting your discussions on online resources, although it can be helpful (our mistake, we fixed a misleading sentence in the discussion guide)
- If you need to miss a deadline that's okay, just please let us know ASAP - this is helpful for our class planning, and respects our time as instructors.
- If you miss class, email us. You will do a make-up assignment, which is basically just a mash-up of a pre-class activity and post-class response (and no actual post-class).
- Your canvas responses will be deleted after the class is done.

# Does anyone have any questions?

- Out of class work?
- In-class discussion?
- Synthesis activities?
- Other?