

Small Group Discussions

As a student focused on the social issue of anti-Asian racism and xenophobia, I participated in a small group discussion with my peers who had chosen the same topic. We began by sharing why we selected this issue and how we have engaged with it throughout the term.

During our discussion, we addressed the criteria of Civic Knowledge. We recognized that academic concepts such as social identity, discrimination, and stereotypes became apparent as we delved deeper into the issue. We also realized that the information we gathered from our community engagement experiences differed from what we had initially learned from textbooks, highlighting the need for policy changes that address the experiences.

Regarding Civic Skills, we set a goal to raise awareness about this issue within our campus community. We shared our experiences in organizing events, creating educational materials, and facilitating discussions. Some of the skills we utilized included communication, event planning, and collaboration. We also recognized the importance of adapting our approach based on new information and experiences.

In terms of Civic Values, we reflected on how our personal strengths and weaknesses contributed to our efforts. We acknowledged the positive effects of empathy, cultural competence, and resilience, but also recognized areas where we needed to improve, such as challenging our own assumptions. Our personal values regarding inclusivity, justice, and equality played a crucial role in driving our commitment.

Lastly, in discussing Civic Action, we examined how this experience increased our sense of responsibility for acting on behalf of others. We discussed the steps we plan to take to sustain our commitment, such as joining advocacy organizations, volunteering, and continuing to educate others.