



Preparing for Class Discussion

Participant

- Read the material and bring it with you to class.
- Take notes: highlight key points, underline, write comments in the margins, or use whatever strategy works best for you.
- Have questions prepared. What points confused you? What are you curious about?
- If you are nervous about speaking up, prepare comments you think may be relevant ahead of time. If they are written down, you won't forget them, even if you do experience anxiety.

Leader

- Read the material and bring it with you to class.
- Take notes, but go above and beyond. Do extra research to prepare for your classmates' questions.
- Identify areas that you or others may find confusing. Research them and consider using them as strong discussion points to clarify.
- Have a structure in mind. Prepare a time-appropriate amount of questions, and include extras just in case things move quickly. Know where you want the discussion to go.

If you want more information, check out the following UMW Speaking Center handouts:

[Class Discussion Packet](#)
[Leading Class Discussion](#)
[Participating in Class Discussion](#)