

Engagement In Classes

Classes are way more interesting (for you and for me!) when you truly engage with the material and engage in class – particularly as opposed to just passive consumption of lectures. Active engagement in learning is always important.

And you learn more!

General points about in-class and discussion-board engagement

Do not underestimate your wisdom!



You have a unique perspective on life based on your background and your life experiences. *That is valuable*. Sharing your thoughts with us broadens all of our experience and knowledge and it makes everyone else more comfortable to speak up.

At the same – the point of classes is to learn! No one knows everything, so ...

If you don't understand something, ASK!

I totally remember being in classes and at times thinking: “What???? Why does everyone else seem to be understanding this and I’m utterly confused?” Trust me, if it’s not clear to you, it’s not clear to others in the class either. Be a leader and ask your question in class—that gives everyone the opportunity to hear the answer *and* it models leadership and makes others more comfortable to ask questions!



Maybe you think I am just wrong!

That's fine! Ask me to further explain. Thinking critically is part of being an engaged university student. It doesn't mean being disrespectful or challenging every thing your professors present and say. It does mean asking for further clarification.



Explain to us why you think something might be wrong – help your profs to understand where you are coming from. Open discussions are good.

