Participating in Class Discussions

Preparing for discussion classes involves time and effort. Most of the work is done before class: reading, evaluating, and taking notes.

Read the Assignment

- Class discussions are about particular topics and assigned readings.
- Read the assigned material carefully.

Make Notes for Discussion.

- Make notes on points that you agree or disagree. This gives ideas to talk about if you are asked for your reaction to the topic.
- Note ideas, points and concepts you do not understand. Use these notes as guides to formulate questions.

Be Involved in Class Discussion

- Comment on what has been said.
- Ask many questions.

Tips for Involvement.

- If you are reluctant to speak before the class, ask a question or make a comment early in the discussion.
- Sit close to the front of the class.
- Make your comments brief and to the point.
- Direct your comments to the group.
- Jot down ideas during the discussion so that you will have notes to refer to when you get a chance to speak.