

Sample Study Group Agendas

Example 1: Concept-Focused

1. Icebreaker/Warm-up – 10 minutes
 - This can be a true icebreaker in the first session, and more informal afterwards – but some groups like to do a real icebreaker each session.
2. Review slides/lecture/reading from the week – 45 minutes
 - The group can walk through instructor slides, lecture outlines, or assigned readings, defining terms, rephrasing in their own words, and making connections among concepts.
 - Discussion structure can vary: full-group work, pairs discussing and feeding back to the group, one student at the board guided by others, etc.
3. Individuals share points of confusion/questions, and the group addresses them – 45 minutes
 - Group members can bring questions ahead of time, and/or add questions that come up during discussion. Adhere to the “no dumb questions” rule.
4. Create overview of material for coming week(s) – 20 minutes
 - Look ahead to prepare group members for the next lecture/chapter/reading. Create a basic outline of ideas in the next class(es). Discuss upcoming assignments.

Example 2: With Problem Practice

1. Icebreaker/Warm-up – 10 minutes
2. Review slides/lecture/reading from the week – 45 minutes
 - The group can walk through instructor slides, lecture outlines, or assigned readings, defining terms, rephrasing in their own words, and making connections among concepts.
 - Discussion structure can vary: full-group work, pairs discussing and feeding back to the group, one student at the board guided by others, etc.
 - Individuals ask questions as they come up during discussion. Adhere to the “no dumb questions” rule.
3. Work through problems together – 45 minutes
 - Vary the structure: individual work, pair work, full-group work.
 - Use problems from textbooks or other materials provided by the instructor.
 - Emphasize the “how” and “why” in addition to getting the right answer.
4. Create overview of material for coming week(s) – 20 minutes
 - Look ahead to prepare group members for the next lecture/chapter/reading. Create a basic outline of ideas in the next class(es). Discuss upcoming assignments.