

## AP/SOSC 3116 6.0 The Patient

### NOTES FOR DISCUSSION LEADERS:

#### Goals of being discussion leader:

- 1) To encourage students to work on both their analytical skills and their public presentation skills - presenting ideas, concepts and arguments clearly and intelligently in front of a group.
- 2) To give students the chance to lead a group discussion. This means working to draw in different students and a variety of ideas and responses into a common group discourse.
- 3) To allow students to work with a group in an innovative teaching-participation situation. This necessitates that discussion leaders be able to respond intelligently and creatively to both opportunities and challenges as they emerge during the group exercise.

#### Discussion leaders are meant to work together, as a team, to do the following:

- 1) Present for the class a summary of the article(s) or chapter(s) which we are reading for the week. **This should include an analysis of the central argument, main themes of the reading, and some consideration of how this particular set of readings relates to other readings or the course as a whole.** Use handouts, power-point or overheads. Remember that is your job to make the readings more comprehensible to the class – **don't get lost in the detail!** You might also want to raise questions or challenges to the viewpoint of the writers. **This should last at least 10 minutes and will be followed by a period of questions or discussion (led by you) involving the entire class.**
- 2) Most of the readings lend themselves to collecting a small amount of additional research which will be of interest to the class and will enhance your group presentation. For example, the classic pieces of analysis that we are using during the first two classes would benefit from additional biographical information about the authors. Students sometimes chose to show a short film clip to develop a theme.
- 3) Lead the class in an exercise relating to the readings. This might involve role-playing, a simulated debate, a game or contest, or envision how the research done for it might be expanded or improved. Be creative! Discussion leaders may wish to divide the class into smaller groups for the exercise, bringing the group back together at the end. This section of the class should last at least 10 minutes.

**\* Please note that you are responsible for meeting with me before your discussion leader session. I am happy to provide ideas, feedback etc. Feel free to email me in this situation - simply title your email 'group leader query.'**