

Problem Sets #4 & #5

Questions to Guide Analysis of Individual Behavior and Team Dynamics

Note: You will do this analysis twice during the semester, as problem sets 4 and 5.

There are two objectives to the 15.279 teamwork assignment. One is to give you practice in researching, writing about, and presenting on a real-world problem, situation, or topic that is more complex than what you have done in class so far (the *task*). The second is to give you an opportunity to observe team dynamics, including your own role in them, so that you can work more productively within a team (the *process*). To that end, please structure your analysis around the following questions.

Individual Behavior Analysis

1. Describe a specific instance in which you or another team member (but please don't identify the person by name) did something that furthered progress on either the *task* or the *process*.
2. Describe a specific instance in which you or another team member (but please don't identify the person by name) did something that hindered progress on either the *task* or the *process*.
3. Describe one or two ways in which you demonstrated leadership on the team, or ways in which you intend to demonstrate leadership.
4. Describe a specific instance in which you supported another team member who was in the leadership position.
5. Describe one or two ways in which you are working to make yourself a more effective team member.

Team Dynamics Analysis

6. Describe one or two situations in which the team functioned effectively. To what do you attribute that positive interaction?
7. Describe one or two situations in which the team functioned poorly. To what do you attribute those difficulties?
8. How does the team make decisions?
9. How does the team assign tasks?
10. Have specific team members taken on specific roles (again, no names, please)?

11. Are there mechanisms in place for team members to alternate roles? If not, how could that happen?
12. Are there any problems within the team that you want to discuss with your instructor or TA? (All conversations will be strictly confidential.)