

EXERCISE: GROUP WORK AGREEMENT

An exercise in aligning expectations, taking ownership, and making compromises.

1. Read through the statements below. Consider what is important to you in group work. Mark how much you agree with each statement:

1 is Strongly Disagree while 4 is Strongly Agree

2. Discuss each statement as a group and try to reach a shared position. Record the group's response on a separate sheet of paper.
3. For which statements did the group's decision require you to compromise on your original views?
4. Summarize the difference between your own position and the group's position. Is the outcome acceptable to both you and the group? How satisfied are you with the compromise?
5. Based on your discussion, create a list of group agreements that everyone is committed to following.

Statement	1	2	3	4
1. Everyone is responsible for deciding how well prepared they are for group meetings.				
2. There should be time for socializing and talking about things that are not related to studying.				
3. Work commitments are a valid reason for being absent from a group meeting.				
4. The group should have a coordinator (facilitator/chairperson).				
5. Minutes should be taken during group meetings.				
6. Everyone should contribute at roughly the same level and do a similar amount of work.				
7. In the event of disagreements, it is acceptable to seek support from a mentor, supervisor, contact person, or Student Guidance.				
8. Disagreements within the group should be resolved by a simple majority vote.				
9. A group member's repeated absence is a shared responsibility of the group.				