ERSP: Group work and Individual Contributions

S14 Week 2
Today’s goals

• Discuss the relationship between individual communication and group work
• Understand your communication style and the style of your group members
• Discuss the value of individual logs, and different strategies for keeping them
• Begin to dig into the technical problems your group is working on
PIGS Face

- Positive Interdependence
- Individual and Group accountability
- Group processing
- Skills (professional skills)
- Face-to-face promotive interaction

From: Affinity Research Group Model: Gates et al.
PIGS Face

- Positive Interdependence
- Individual and Group accountability (logs)
- Group processing
- Skills (professional skills)
- Face-to-face promotive interaction (teamwork and communication)

From: Affinity Research Group Model: Gates et al.
True Colors workshop activity!

- Credit: Jessica Safir, Google, based on True Colors © Don and Erica Lowry, 2012. Used with permission.
Activity logs: for you and your group

• Spend 5 minutes reading the logs of your other group members. Keep an eye out for:
  • How is their recording style similar to yours? How is it different?
  • How is the content of their log complementary to your own?
  • What did you learn from reading their log?
Research group meeting: debrief

• Spend 5 minutes discussing the questions you posed in your log and debriefing about your experience.
  • Can anyone answer anyone else’s question(s)?
  • How might you make forward progress as a team toward answering these questions?
  • How could you prioritize the questions.
Goals and objectives

• Your logs list your specific objectives for the week (sometimes overloaded as goals, but they are technically objectives)
• Our plan for the next week to two is to try to identify the goals and objectives of the research you are looking at, and to tease out what the problem is.
Goals are broad purposes around which research can be organized

- State what you hope to accomplish but usually not measurable
- Create the setting for the work
- Identify a large problem/gap in knowledge
- Should be important/others should care
Goal examples: Think

• Individually read and consider the goals in the example handout (5 min)
Goal examples: Share

• Get together with your group and share your thoughts on the goals. Specifically address:
  • What do the goals have in common?
  • Do they address an important problem?
  • What is the problem they address?
  • What is the utility of expressing these goals?
Objectives

- Operational
- Measurable
- Basis for evaluation
Objective: Think

• Individually read and consider the objectives in the example handout (5 min)
Objective examples: Share

- Get together with your group and share your thoughts on the objectives. Specifically address:
  - What do the objectives have in common?
  - How do they relate to the goal they support?
  - What specific problems do they solve?
Personal objective examples: Logs

• Your weekly tasks can be thought of as “objectives”
• Looking back at your log last week, you had a number of objectives for the week. Discuss with your group:
  • What “problems” did your objectives solve?
  • How would you evaluate how well you met your objective from the information in your log?
Objective examples: Logs

• From the results of your log, with your group identify 3-5 future objectives that came out of the work you did last week.
For next time

• Attend your research group meeting!
• Complete the pre-class activity (coming tomorrow evening), which will involve more logging! It will ask you to start articulating the goals, objectives and problems associated with your research group.