

Explanation: A Socratic seminar is a collaborative style of class discussion where students control the flow of the conversation. Normally the discussion is structured around a reading that is to be completed before the beginning of the discussion. Through engaging in this form of discussion students will develop deeper levels of understanding about the topics leading to higher levels of critical thinking.

Socratic Seminar Guidelines

1. Be respectful of one another and other opinions
2. Focus on the main speaker and wait for your turn to talk
3. Express agreement or disagreement in courteous and thoughtful manner
4. Cite specific examples and portions of the text when possible
5. Address the whole group in a clearly spoken, well thought out response
6. Be a respectful active listener
7. Make it a point to participate at least twice throughout the course of the discussion
8. Use other participants names when referencing comments made by other speakers
9. Do not be afraid of proposing changes, theories, perceptions, connections, and perspectives from the text