

Rankings

1) Discussing papers	4.000000	Very Important
2) Writing synthesis	3.812500	Very Important
3) Writing peer reviews	3.666667	Very Important
4) Powerpoint lectures	3.375000	Important
4) Whiteboard lectures	same	Important
5) Reading papers	3.187500	Important
6) Small group discussions	3.000000	Important
7) Concept Mapping	2.750000	Important
8) Bibliography	2.562500	Important

To discuss with class:

The importance of small group discussions and active learning for their education. Provide evidence from the literature to make this argument!

To change in short term based on comments:

- QUIZ: Most people don't like the quizzes and feel like it forces them to memorize facts rather than focus on the big picture. I am willing to negotiate on this if we can come up with an alternative that ensures that you all come to class prepared and that provides a fair way to judge participation grades. One alternative is to have you write up summaries on your readings that that you turn before class. This would also help me to see what you all are confused about in any given reading before class.
- Make sure to highlight take home points better during lectures and at the end of class. Try to sum up what we have learned at the end of the day explicitly.
- Allocate more time to discussing the papers themselves
- Be conscious of paper difficulty during paper selection
- Potentially include some guidance on the assignment sheet before class about WHY I am picking each paper and what you should focus on in that paper.
- Place each class in a larger context

To change next time course is offered:

- Provide more guidance on how to go about finding topics for the synthesis paper

Liana's idea:

To emphasize extreme organisms, institute a crazy creature of the day video and brief discussion that relates back to the topic of the day!