

Concept Map on philosophical perspectives

Tags: blended learning, online learning, concept map, group work

Method: fully online

Competencies: ability to work in team, synthesis of theories, critical evaluation

Technology: LMS forum, free concept mind programs, LMS assignment dropbox

In this activity you will read overview articles on various philosophical approaches used in [subject matter i.e. urban geography]. You will also read articles and listen to recent news podcasts on urban gentrification. You will apply various philosophical perspectives to understand the *causes* of gentrification. For the purposes of this activity we are interested in unpacking the *causes* of gentrification. We will debate and discuss the *politics* of gentrification later in the course.

Please note that there are a few steps to this activity as outlined below. This activity is worth 6 points; 2 points for your individual post (Step 1), 2 points for your group submission (Step 2) and 2 points for your contributions to the large group discussion (Step 3).

1 Initial Post (2 points)

Before you begin this discussion activity, you will need to connect with your group members to decide who is doing which “ism.” It is okay for two of you to choose the same “ism” as long as the following four “isms” are covered at least by one other person. You must still complete step 1 as an individual. Individually you will review one philosophical perspective (i.e. positivism, structuralism, post-modernism, and post-colonialism) and answer the following question:

- How would you explain urban gentrification from the perspective of your philosophical perspective?



Click here to post your individual response to the discussion forum topic

2 Group product (2 points)

Next you and your assigned group members will create a concept map. A concept map is a way to visually display ideas and show the connections and relationships among those ideas. Using the term “urban gentrification” at the centre of your map, show how each of the ‘isms’ relate to gentrification. As a group, you will provide specific examples from the readings and video lessons. You may create a mind map using word or power point or explore the following free software.

- Bubbl.us <https://bubbl.us/>
- Inspiration <http://www.inspiration.com/freetrial>

After creating the concept map, as a group write a one paragraph summary of your discussion about these “isms” and how they can provide insights into an urban issue. You and your group members may continue to work on your concept map on the discussion forum, **Work Space for Concept Map** or you and your group may decide to use other online collaborating tools. One person from your group should post a one paragraph summary of your discussion and your concept map which may be a URL, document or a screen shot. Please see **Step 3** for details.

3 Discussion (2 points)

One person from your group should post a one paragraph summary of your discussion and your concept map which may be a URL, document or a screen shot. Please use the following naming convention for the title of your post: **Assignment Name – Group Name** (Example: Concept Map – Group B5).



Click here to post your paragraph and attached the concept map to the discussion forum topic, Concept Map.

You will be able to view the concept maps created by other groups. View the other groups' postings and comment or ask questions. Each individual is responsible for reading and responding to a minimum of 2 other groups' posts. Please see discussion rubric below.

Discussion Forum Rubric

	Exceeds Expectations (5-6 points)	Meets Expectations (3-4 points)	Approaches Expectations (2 points)	Needs Improvement (1 point)
Frequency	Participates early in the activity and at different times (i.e., on different days)	Participates most of the time	Participates some of the time	Attempts to participate only briefly and at the last minute
Quality	Posts show a detailed understanding of course content, demonstrate critical reflection, and build on previous posts	Posts show active and specific engagement with the course content and builds on previous posts	Posts show an understanding of course content but lack specificity in reference to course readings	Posts are general and do not refer to course notes and readings
Evidence of Critical Thinking	Posts integrate ideas from course content that promote new ideas, issues or questions	Posts provide evidence of critical thinking through synthesis and analysis of course material	Posts apply and analyze course ideas but do not go beyond course material	Provided few to no connections among course material
Contribution	Offers insightful responses that inspire discussion and contribute to understanding of course content	Offers interesting responses that invite conversation with peers and instructors	Responds briefly to previous posts and makes some effort to elicit responses	Makes no effort to respond to previous posts or to elicit responses
Proficiency of Communication	Sentence structure is clear and concise, avoiding unnecessary wordiness. Punctuation and capitalization are correct	Sentence structure is generally correct. A few errors in punctuation and capitalization.	Work contains structural weakness and grammatical errors. Multiple errors in punctuation and capitalization.	Errors interfere with reader's ability to comprehend post.