

# Roles for Active Learning in Groups



**Inviter(s):** The inviter begins a conversation about roles with the group. Once roles have been considered, the inviter will follow the group's process– including observing the Discussion Manager(s)– and taking notice if someone hasn't shared, if someone seems puzzled, or what-have-you. Ultimately, the inviter will encourage and welcome balanced group participation.



**Discussion Manager(s):** The discussion manager facilitates the group's discussion or work flow process by asking inquiry questions, providing affirmation, playing "devil's advocate," and revisiting the task or prompt as necessary in order to make sure that the group is focused, on task, and efficient.



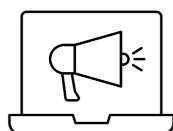
**Recorder(s):** The recorder chronicles the group's process. This may entail taking notes, identifying key quotes and ideas, or making other types of documentation to ensure the group can actively reflect on their process in order to prepare a report or presentation on their prompt or task.



**Media manager(s):** If co-viewing media is an important part of the group's learning task– such as analyzing video clips or audio segments– then you may need a media manager to take charge of playing, pausing, and reviewing these clips for the group to consider. Online this means sharing one's screen and f2f this may mean playing clips from one's laptop.



**Designer(s):** The designer takes the lead in preparing a product– such as creating slides, a poster, or other materials if they are required for the learning prompt or task. Of course everyone in the group contributes, but the process may benefit from leadership by a thoughtful designer.



**Presenter(s) or Reporter(s):** The presenter or reporter coordinates speaking roles for when the group returns to the whole class to share. In some cases, the presenter will be *the* spokesperson for the group, while in other cases they may organize multiple voices to share ideas or present the product.



**Other roles?** Ultimately we are all learners together and these group roles are suggested in the spirit of creating meaningful, gracious, and caring learning communities. Feel free to share other roles that are important for your optimal learning in group contexts.