

THE LIVES WE LEAD: PROMPTS FOR 1ST HALF OF SEMESTER

<p align="center">Identity: "Who am I?"</p>	<p align="center">Relationships: "How do I interact with others?"</p>	<p align="center">Community: "Where do I participate?"</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Who are you? b) What experiences in and out of class have contributed to your understanding of yourself? c) If your life was a film, what would be on the soundtrack? d) What are the places that shape you or made you who you are? e) Where and when are you most yourself? f) Describe someone whom you have looked up to or who has mentored you in the past. g) To whom are you a mentor? What have you learned from this relationship/role? h) What values or ideas are most important to you and why? i) Think of a time when your values have been challenged. What was your response? How did this experience make you feel? j) In what situations are you willing to take a stand? k) What's an action that you've taken that you've been proud of? l) When have you had to rethink your stand on an issue important to you? m) When have you failed to take a stand? Why? How do you see that experience now? n) What is your earliest recollection that other people or families are different from your own? What did that teach you about yourself? Your family? Your community? o) Reflect on the first time you realized that not everyone thought or believed the same as you. p) What does diversity mean to you? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What experiences in and out of class have contributed to your understanding of how you collaborate with others? b) What groups have you been a part of that have been effective? Analyze why and discuss how this knowledge impacts the role you play in groups. c) What groups have you worked with that have been ineffective? Analyze why and discuss how this knowledge impacts the role you play in groups. d) Describe someone who you have looked up to or who has mentored you in the past. e) What have you learned from this person? f) To whom are you a mentor? What have you learned from this relationship/role? g) How do you handle conflict among or with your family and friends? h) What is your earliest recollection that other people or families are different from your own? What did that teach you about yourself? Your family? Your community? i) Document a time when you were not a part of a majority group. j) How do you fit into diverse communities? k) Describe a time when you've made a difference to someone else? l) What experiences have taught you the most about working effectively with others? Consider lessons learned in sports, theater, clubs, academic projects, or the workplace. m) In group situations, when the going gets tough, how do you respond to challenging situations? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What experiences in and out of class have contributed to your understanding of communities you belong to? b) What are the places that shape you or made you who you are? c) Where and when are you most yourself? d) How do you define community? e) How do you handle conflict in a public context? f) What is your earliest recollection that other people or families are different from your own? What did that teach you about yourself? Your family? Your community? g) How do you fit into diverse communities? h) What does it mean to you to "make a difference"? i) Describe a time when you've made a difference to someone in your community? j) Create a co-curricular resume; that is, an inventory of all the ways and places that you participate. k) What roles do you play in the Mason community? How is that similar to or different from your roles in other communities? l) What organizations and communities are you a member of? What roles do you play there? Who do you work with within the organization? m) Who do you identify as leaders in your organizations/communities?

<p>q) What's necessary, in your view, to "make a difference"?</p> <p>r) What does it mean to you to "make a difference"?</p> <p>s) If your house was burning and you had time to save only three things, what would they be and why? (Assume that all loved ones and furry friends are safe.)</p> <p>t) If you didn't know your parents, who would you choose to be your mother and father and why?</p> <p>u) If you could choose to live in any other time or place, when and where would you live and why?</p> <p>v) How would your closest friends describe you? Work colleagues? Parents? Teachers?</p> <p>w) Write a headline and news story about your greatest future accomplishment.</p> <p>x) If you could invite any five people to dinner (living or deceased), who would you invite and what would you serve?</p> <p>y) What are the words you live by? What are your favorite quotations or sayings and why?</p>	<p>n) What are your strategies for managing conflict? How do you provide feedback? How do you prefer to receive feedback?</p> <p>o) Where or how have you encountered resistance to introducing new ideas in groups? How have you addressed that resistance?</p> <p>p) In group activities (workplace, academic, or other), it can be useful to have individuals whose talents complement your own. What strengths do you bring to group work? What strengths do you seek in others who comprise your team?</p> <hr/> <p>Prompts for week before midterm meeting and end of semester meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After encountering your peers/colleagues reflections and use of evidence, what has surprised you? • What are the most important ideas you will take away from this peer sharing and exchange? 	<p>n) Consider where and how you might contribute your skills and talents to enriching a community organization or program.</p> <p>o) Knowing that our action can make a difference can enhance our determination to reach a goal. List some ways that your actions have positively impacted others.</p> <p>p) Where or how have you encountered roadblocks to your participation in communities? What factors have helped or encouraged you to participate in communities?</p> <p>q) Describe future actions you want to take to make a difference.</p>
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