

# 16 TIPS

## TO MAKE YOUR DISCUSSION BOARDS THE MOST EFFECTIVE

- 1 TRY THE "FISHBOWL APPROACH."
- 2 REQUIRE INITIAL POSTS BY MIDWEEK, RATHER THAN SUNDAY NIGHT.
- 3 REDEFINE YOUR PROMPTS.
- 4 REQUIRE FEWER DISCUSSION POSTS DURING THE SEMESTER.
- 5 ALLOW MULTIMEDIA RESPONSES (AND, SOMETIMES, REQUIRE THEM).
- 6 PRIVATELY CONTACT RETICENT STUDENTS.
- 7 PROVIDE A VARIETY OF DISCUSSION THREADS.
- 8 DEDUCT POINTS FOR CLUSTER POSTING.
- 9 REQUIRE 3CQ RESPONSES.
- 10 SPLIT LARGE GROUPS INTO SMALLER ONES.
- 11 MIX UP THE QUESTIONS.
- 12 DON'T RESPOND TO EVERY POST — BUT DO PARTICIPATE.
- 13 MIX UP YOUR RESPONSES.
- 14 SET COMMUNITY STANDARDS.  
ASK QUESTIONS YOU CARE ABOUT (NOT NECESSARILY THOSE YOU THINK ARE IMPORTANT).
- 15
- 16 APPOINT DISCUSSION LEADERS.