

Reading Tips and Study Questions

Sessions 12 and 13: Student Analyses

Required reading:

None.

Preparing

There's no reading assignment for this week's class or the following week's (our last).

Your assignment, instead, is to prepare a brief (5-minute) presentation for your classmates and faculty colleagues on how your knowledge-in-use case analysis is progressing.

Because we need to include everyone's presentation and give you each feedback and discuss next year's version of the course and give you time for the formal course evaluation—all in the next two classes—we will hold to the five-minute limit. You'll present, we'll fire some questions and advice your way, and then we'll move on. It's a very healthy discipline. Like writing the brief problem statement, it forces choice and focus.

So prepare to and address the following questions, each briefly, in no more than 5 minutes:

1. **What is your research question?** That is, what is the question, at the heart of the knowledge-in-use case, that you are trying to answer? Note: Five related concerns is not a question. What is the main question? Mentioning a few subquestions is fine, too, if you can do so briefly.
2. **Why did you decide on that focus?** Say something briefly about your interests, your problem statement and the feedback you received, and how the focus relates to your career interests.
3. **How have you approached answering this question?** Indicate, for example, the central course concepts and type(s) of data you are using.
4. **What are your preliminary findings?**
5. **Where are you stuck, if anywhere?** Framed more broadly, what are you finding most challenging about the analysis in progress? In other words, where would you particularly like help from your colleagues and faculty?