**Discussion Template**

At Emergent University students design their own course of study based on TV shows, movies, songs, and other media they already love. As a Class Contributor, you get to look at some of the things in your world you already love in a deeper way, and share that knowledge with the world through live discussions.

At this point you have already created a Class and have it posted online at [www.emergentuniversity.org](http://www.emergentuniversity.org) on the Bulletin Board.

To make your discussion as easy to run as possible, we’ve laid out a template!

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| **1-2 Weeks Before**1. Gather all of your resources together and refresh yourself on any information you need to be well versed on the subject.
2. Tell your friends about the discussion you’re hosting and invite them to join!
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| **Day Of**1. Make sure your computer mic and sound are working
2. Make sure you have access to a well-lit, quiet location to host the discussion
3. Remind your friends that you have a discussion coming up!
4. If your resources are on things like Amazon, Netflix, Hulu, you can generate a Watch Party link and post it to the class thread.
5. Make sure everyone knows which Voice Channel to meet in on Discord when class begins.
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| **~5-10 minutes – Set Up**1. As people filter in, make sure that your mic and video is working
2. Re-post any Watch Party links or any other media that participants will need to engage in the class
3. Post a link to the Class you created on Emergent University so participants can look through the discussion questions and links
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| **~5 Minutes - Introduce Yourself**Introduce yourself to the class. This doesn’t have to be a resume, but should include some background on why you wanted to teach this class. Did the media discussed have a soft spot in childhood? Did they inspire you towards your career? Do they hold some emotion for you, or change your thinking? Whatever gets you excited about the topic is what you should talk about! Excitement is contagious! |
| **~ 5 - 10 Minutes – Introductions**Encourage people in the class to introduce themselves. This doesn’t need to be introductions like answering what your job is or what’s on your resume. Ask people to answer questions like:1. What about the class topic brought you here today?
2. Do you have a cool memory associated with the topic we’re learning about today?
3. What is your favorite song/movie/TV show?

Or, some less topic-focused questions: 1. If money was no concern, what job would you have?
2. What cool thing are you reading/listening to/learning about?
3. What’s a random fact that you know?
4. What class should be on every person’s syllabus?
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| **~ 5 Minutes – Introduce the Class**Introduce the class topic with any important background information people should have before diving into watching or listening to the media of the class.  |
| **~ 3 Minutes – 3 Hours – Watch or Listen to Media**Here classes will vary widely. Some music classes may have the host play a few seconds of a song and then have people discuss it. For movie classes, you as the host may play the movie and ask people to only message during the performance. Other hosts might encourage participation during the show (think like Rocky Horror Picture Show). Just make sure to set clear ground rules on when people should talk.  |
| **~30-70 minutes - Discussion**1. Start off by asking people broadly about their reactions to the media you presented. It’s often easier to start off talking when the ice has been broken.
2. Try to phrase questions you ask in an open-ended way. Often, people are scared of getting an answer “wrong.”
3. If people don’t know an answer, encourage them to look things up. Half the fun is the journey to an answer.
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| **~5 Minutes – Next Steps**1. Are there other resources that people should be aware of, other courses, videos, articles, etc. if they want to know more about this subject?
2. How can people stay in touch with you? Are there other things you’re involved with that they can help you with?
3. You can put your Venmo into the chat. While Emergent classes are free, we encourage donations.
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| **~5 Minutes – Wrap Up**1. If people want to know about more classes, encourage them to become Community Members at [www.emergentuniversity.org](http://www.emergentuniversity.org)
2. Encourage people to take the feedback form (and get stickers!)
3. Encourage people to build their own classes! Class templates can be found under the “Documents” section of Emergent University.
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