



Tips for Writing Reflection Prompts

The reflection prompt should:

- Be clear, concise and ask the student to think critically.
- Be relevant and meaningful to student and course learning goals.
- Allow the student to give responses that move beyond simple description of the experience to an analysis of how the experience contributed to the student understanding of self, others, and/or course concepts.
- Guide the student to demonstrate connections between the experience and material from other courses; past experience; and/or personal goals.
- Challenge the student to question their own biases, stereotypes, preconceptions, and/or assumptions and define new modes of thinking as a result.

Adapted from Steven Jones, Coordinator, Office of Service Learning, IUPUI

Examples of Reflection Prompts

Pre-Experience:

- What brought you to this particular experience and why is it a good fit for you?
- Beyond building friendships or networking, what do you personally hope to learn through this experience?
- How might your past experiences enhance this experience?
- What concerns do you have regarding your ability to succeed in this experience?
- How might this experience relate to your career path?

During Experience:

- What connections, if any, are you seeing between this experience and your career path?
- Which part of the experience is your favorite at this point?
- Which part of the experience are you finding the most challenging?
- How is this experience impacting your overall university experience?
- How have you applied skills or abilities gained from previous experiences to solve problems or explore issues in this experience?
- What opportunities can you act upon within your experience to maximize your learning?

Post-Experience:

- Describe the experience (what did you hear, see, read, or do?).
- How has the experience enabled you to apply or transfer your learning to a new setting or circumstance?
- In what ways has this experience increased your curiosity or awareness about new content or issues?
- How do you see yourself now compared to who you were at the beginning of this experience?
- What did you learn about yourself and/or others as a result of participating in this experience?
- How has this experience built upon what you have learned from your educational experiences in the classroom?
- What aspect of the experience contributed most to your learning and why?
- What new insights did you develop regarding your career plans as a result of this experience?
- How would you describe this learning experience to a potential employer in a way that describes knowledge and skills gained?
- Do you feel that you will stay connected with this experience and why?

The University of Arizona Internship Council also generated a list of reflection questions related to internships which were impacted by COVID-19 in Spring 2020. You can find those questions at:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_hNjxRfzv2ZrDg4oM85VLI mxWzX8mttTe3xNS3mXmGY/edit?pli=1