**Using Cases: General Considerations**

Cases are stories with educational messages. They are not like the doing problem sets or writing review papers. Instead, they are active learning opportunities where you can apply your knowledge, explore the topic(s) at hand in detail and learn more deeply.

You will use in-class discussion and research to develop a solution to the problem posed in the case. Although you may prepare the case individually, or in small groups, the class as a whole will present information and solutions collaboratively. So, in effect the whole class learns from your research and discussions.

Educational literature suggests that when cases are used students learn more content and they benefit from learning to work together collaboratively to solve puzzles, problems, and issues. Students benefit by presenting their own ideas and justifying their evidence for those ideas, not just accepting new information. Students take a more active approach and aim for some goal beyond just knowing the content. Use the case and its materials as if you needed to understand it in order to solve a real problem or accomplish some objective. Ask yourself such questions as: What experience can this case help me understand? What present or future problem can it help me solve?

Resources

<http://nativecases.evergreen.edu/teaching>

<http://sciencecasenet.org/>

<http://sciencecasenet.org/why-pbl-and-case-study/>

<http://sciencecasenet.org/resources/>

<http://sciencecasenet.org/how-to-assess-cases/>

<https://bokcenter.harvard.edu/cases>

<https://www.thecasecentre.org/educators/casemethod/resources/features/teachingcases>

<https://www.thecasecentre.org/educators/casemethod/resources/books>

<https://www.bu.edu/ctl/teaching-resources/using-case-studies-to-teach/>

<https://serc.carleton.edu/sp/library/cases/index.html>

<https://cft.vanderbilt.edu/guides-sub-pages/case-studies/>