Questions To Consider To Create a Team Contract

Goals

- 1. What are the goals of the team?
- 2. What are your personal goals for this assignment?
- 3. What kind of obstacles might you encounter in reaching your goals?
- 4. What happens if all of you decide you want to get an "A," but because of time constraints, one person decides that a "B" will be acceptable?
- 5. Is it acceptable for two or three team members to do more work in order to get an "A"?

Meeting Norms

- 1. Do you have a preference for when meetings will be held? Do you have a preference for where they should be held?
- 2. How often do you think the team will need to meet outside of class? How long do you anticipate meetings will be?
- 3. Will it be okay for team members to eat during meetings?

Work Norms

- 1. How much time per week do you anticipate it will take to make the project successful?
- 2. How will work be distributed?
- 3. How will deadlines be set?
- 4. How will you decide who should do which tasks?
- 5. What will happen if someone does not follow through on a commitment (e.g., missing a deadline, not showing up to meetings)?
- 6. How will the work be reviewed?
- 7. What happens if people have different opinions on the quality of the work?
- 8. What will you do if one or more team members are not doing their share of the work?
- 9. How will you deal with different work habits of individual team members (e.g., some people like to get assignments done as early as possible; others like to work under the pressure of a deadline)?

Decision Making

- 1. Do you need 100% approval of each team member before making a decision?
- 2. What will you do if one of you fixates on a particular idea?

Adapted from Lori Breslow, MIT, 15.279

21W.732 / ESG.21W732 Science Writing and New Media Fall 2010

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: http://ocw.mit.edu/terms.