

## **Computer-Mediated Decision-making Exercise**

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**Objective:** to come up with evaluation criteria and evaluate the usefulness of some course readings, via computer-mediated communication. (This exercise is useful in both synchronous and asynchronous formats).

### **Procedure for designated group leader:**

Step one: discuss with your group members the role that you think readings ought to play in an organizational communication course, given the stated course objectives. Come up with a list of criteria that you think should determine how a reading is selected for inclusion in the course packet. The criteria you develop must be consensual -- in other words, everyone must agree to the criteria you develop. Some criteria you might use (but aren't limited to) include complexity, abstractness, clarity, applicability, scope, etc.

Step two: Have a look at the readings on the following topics:

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First, evaluate the readings with reference to the criteria you just developed. Then, once you use the criterion, have a look at what you've said about the reading. Overall, do you think you've evaluated the reading fairly? Once again, you need to make sure that your evaluations are consensual and that everyone agrees that they are fair.

### **Instructions:**

As a group leader, it is your job to tell your group what it is they have to do. No one has an idea of how you're going to present the task at hand to them. It is your job to figure out how best to communicate your task to your team. What media will you use? Will you give them all the information at once? Will you present it stage by stage? How will you coordinate between folks and ensure that consensus is reached with everyone's full and active participation? In what format will you present your review to your instructor? What tasks will each member perform?