

## Working in a Group

When working in groups with other students, the goal is for **all** of you to cooperate in the learning of all members of the group. In other words, when you are finished with an assignment, **everyone in the group should understand and be able to explain how to solve the problems.** The ideas listed below are meant to help each of you and each group work to full potential.

1. **Be Prepared.** Do the readings and homework before class. Be prepared to discuss, explain, and/or ask questions.
2. **Listen** carefully and with respect to each other.
3. Criticize ideas, but do not criticize people.
4. Everyone has the right and **responsibility to contribute** to the task on which the group is working.
5. Ask the TA or SAs for help when you need it (provided you have asked your group first).
6. **Give** help when it is requested.
7. Make decisions by reaching consensus, not by majority rule. Don't agree to something you don't understand!
8. Do not allow one or two members of the group to dominate the discussions. This can be damaging to successful group activity!
9. Most of all, keep an **open mind!** It can be amazing how many different ways there are to approach a problem!