

Thought piece

Grading Rubric

Task	Poor	Satisfactory	Excellent
Brief summary Provide summary of the assigned reading	Fails to provide a substantive summary of the assigned readings	Summarizes assigned readings but may miss 1-2 key points	Provides complete summary of all key points in assigned readings
Questions Pose 2-3 questions for the discussion facilitator	Fails to provide a minimum of 2 questions or questions are not relevant to assigned readings	Provides 2 questions on the assigned readings, 1 may be superficial	Provides at least 2 questions on the assigned readings that will advance discussion
Future studies Propose 2 ideas for future studies into new areas of research	Fails to provide 2 ideas or ideas are not relevant to assigned readings	Provides 2 future directions, 1 may not be relevant to the assigned reading	Provides at least 2 future directions that are relevant to the assigned reading and course

Assignment

You will be required to generate a “thought piece”, consisting of:

1. A brief summary of the assigned paper(s).
2. Two to three questions that the discussion facilitator might consider addressing when guiding discussion.
3. Two ideas of how future studies described in core papers could branch into other dimensions of microbiome research (ecology, evolution, genetics, microbiology, immunology, behavior, etc.).