4-Hat Feedback for Speculative Futures

**SUMMARY KEYWORDS**

peer feedback, feedback, hat, submissions, comments, critical thinking, creative solutions, assignment, red hat, black hat, yellow hat, green hat, lateral thinking

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Congratulations to everyone on completing your Speculative Futures submission for EDCI339. Now, the very last task for this course is to provide peer feedback on the other submissions. Peer feedback is a really important skill both for education and in pretty much every career path you might take. It's really important to know both how to create constructive and useful peer feedback, and how to receive peer feedback and what to do with it.

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For this final assignment, you are going to review and comment on eight submissions to our Speculative Futures gallery. And your peer feedback comments are due on Monday, December 5th. We're going to approach peer feedback in a slightly unorthodox way that I call 4-hat feedback.

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This approach is based on Edward de Bono's concept of Six Thinking Hats. De Bono was a psychologist known for developing the concept of lateral thinking, a novel approach to critical thought and innovation. In the Six Thinking Hats framework, he suggests that by deliberately focusing on a specific aspect of something or a specific type of feedback, we're able to produce more focused observations, imagine more creative solutions to complex problems, and improve communication. Each hat in his model represents a different lens focusing on logic, emotion, structure and organization, creativity, positivity, and criticism. I have adapted this model to use for feedback for this assignment. We will use four hats focusing on the positive, the critical, the emotional and the creative.

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In the 4-hat feedback model for this assignment, you will put on each of the hats twice, and provide feedback to your peers using four different lenses.

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In our model, the Yellow Hat is the positive hat. Your Yellow Hat feedback will focus on the strengths of the submission.

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The Black Hat is the cautious and critical hat. Your Black Hat feedback will reflect on omissions, weaknesses or points of confusion, and potentially offer suggestions on how to improve.

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The Red Hat is the emotional hat. Your Red Hat feedback will allow you to share your emotional reaction to a submission. And for this type of feedback, you could consider using images visual sound or other non-text ways of expressing your emotions.

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The Green Hat is the creative hat. Your Green Hat feedback will give you an opportunity to ask questions to provoke critical reflection and speculation.

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To complete the 4-hat feedback for this assignment, you're going to provide feedback directly in Padlet. By posting comments on eight submissions from other students. Each comment that you post will use one lens. So you'll post two comments that will use Yellow Hat feedback, two comments of Black Hat feedback, two comments of Red Hat feedback, and two comments of Green Hat feedback. Your comments shouldn't be very long, they really won't be more than two to four sentences. And again, with the Red Hat feedback or with the other types of feedback, you can choose to represent your feedback using other types of media.

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When you go into the gallery, please try and choose submissions that haven't received many comments yet, so we make sure that everybody gets a few comments from their peers. All of your comments must be posted by the end of the day on Monday, December 5th. Please let me know if you have any questions about the 4-hat feedback process, or about any other aspects of the assignment.

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And speaking of feedback, here's another reminder to please complete the course experience survey for EDCI339 by December 12. Again, the feedback that you provide within this survey is helpful for me because it will give me ideas on how to improve the course and help me see things that really worked well and things that didn't work well. And then it's also used as a tool for evaluation of my teaching. So I appreciate and welcome all of your comments and feedback, and I do encourage you to take the time to please fill in the course experience survey.