

The Bildner Discussion Group

The Hook:

Enjoy classes that are grounded in real-world issues?

Enjoy journaling or blogging, or wish that you had a reason to do it more often?

Enjoy grappling with difficult moral questions?

Want to discuss with other students who feel the same way?

The Group:

The Bildner Discussion group challenges students to reflect and consider their own lives as they discuss issues relating to civic engagement, intercultural understanding, and ethical deliberation and action. It is open to all alumni and current students of Bildner Endowment courses.

The Details:

The group will meet five times per quarter. Discussion topics are still in development and will be informed by the interests of participants. Here are some potential options so far:

- Given the scientific, statistical, and anecdotal evidence for the harms of alcoholism in the US, how do we proceed as members of a college community? What are the moral and pragmatic considerations that go in to our choice to either drink or not drink?
- Does community-based learning undermine or enhance your understanding of the mission of higher education? Is it effective?
- How has gender played a role in your work with communities? How has it played a role in your day-to-day life as a student at Dartmouth?

Additionally, participants will be given access to a blog where they can post reflections based on group discussions, and other relevant materials such as papers and reflections from related courses

The Dates:

The group will meet on Tuesdays at 6pm. There will be food!

- October 5th
- October 12th
- October 26th
- October 2nd
- November 9th

The Learning Outcomes:

These will guide the topics for the group discussions:

- civic engagement (including within the Dartmouth community)
- intercultural understanding and global learning
- social justice and social responsibility
- ethical reasoning and action
- reflection and integrative learning

Made Possible by the Bildner Program

The Bildner Discussion Group is one component of the broader Bildner Program, which has several components:

1. Three Bildner courses chosen for their emphasis on social justice, diversity, and community
2. An academic symposium on diversity and social justice
3. The Diversity Peer Program administered by the Office of Pluralism and Leadership
4. The Bildner Discussion Group

Students interested in the Bildner Discussion Group are encouraged to explore the rest of the Bildner Program as well.