CHICAGO BOOTH MINI-CASE RESOURCE GUIDE

What will you need?

To successfully run the mini-case study discussion you will be required to have **minimum of 4 participants**. For the comfort of all participants you might want to find a **room** with a screen to enable easy viewing. However, if a room with a screen is not available you can view the case study on a **laptop**. To access the case study online you will have to make sure there is **internet access** in your choice of venue.

How to run a discussion?

There are different ways in which you might want to run the mini-case study discussion. You may choose to:

- allow free flowing large group discussion
- have a facilitator who will guide and foster group discussions
- divide participants into groups, ask them to have a group discussion first and then one member of the group to present the group’s conclusion to the rest of the participants

Discussion guidelines

Remember that we encourage everyone to share their views. Allow people to finish sharing their thoughts. Try not to have anyone dominate the discussion.

If you chose to have a **facilitator**, make sure that he or she:

- thinks about how to help others in the group to: uncover their own action theories, engage in effective behaviour, assess consequences of behaviour, obtain feedback on behaviour, refine action theories
- offers views but doesn’t tell what others should think
- clarifies attitudes by: encouraging alternate perspectives, communicating understanding, initiating problem solving discussions

If you decide to form **groups**, please ask people to mix up so they are meeting someone new or someone from a different industry.

As part of true Chicago Booth impact and being back in the classroom, we encourage everyone to challenge people’s assumptions and views (play devil’s advocate). Run the discussion in a true Chicago Booth style which encompasses:

*An emphasis on analyzing problems, generating key insights, and implementing creative solutions - We stress the importance of asking questions and examining ideas. You’ll gain a superior ability and confidence to handle situations where there are no predetermined answers.*
Dialogue in the classroom - Don't expect to be fed information or given rules to follow. Debate and discussion are the principal modes of learning at Chicago Booth. You'll be asked by your peers to take an active role in uncovering the ideas and facts that will lead you to new solutions.

Timings

Depending on the group size and how you chose to run the mini-case study, here is an example of timings:

- 5 minutes: orientation and introductions
- 5 minutes: watch first video
- 10-15 minutes: small group discussion
- 5 minutes; watch second video
- 10-15 minutes: small group discussion
- 5 minutes: watch third video
- 15-20 minutes large group discussion and closing

Total time required: 50-70 minutes

Additional info

Each mini-case will present a different business issue. Therefore, there isn’t a list of set questions that should be discussed. However, depending on the topic of the mini-case study, here are some points you might want to consider in your discussion:

- what is the key issue
- what challenges is the business facing
- what it the business environment like
- are there alternative or improved measures that could have been taken by the business
- what are the risk factors that should be taken into account
- are there any business concepts/ models that can be applied
- what solution would you recommend