

Welcome to Odysseys: a "game of lively discourse". Henceforth, I will use Odyssey to refer to Odysseys2sense. Like all software, Odyssey has a learning curve. This audio-video presentation will help you get started.

Open "Odysseys-Guide-1up". Viewing the 1up version allows you to see more detail on the screen shots. You only need to do steps 1-13 to get started.

Slide 1: Hi, I am Milo Schield. I've used Odyssey for two years in the classroom. Odyssey is the best tool I've seen for promoting critical thinking online.

Slide 2: The primary goal of Odyssey is to promote productive discourse. Odyssey has four benefits: (1) encourages honest evaluations since everyone is anonymous, (2) provides immediate feedback (no waiting for a teacher to grade your papers), (3) provides feedback from multiple reviewers and (4) allows you to critique the feedback you get.

GETTING STARTED

Slide 3: Go to the Odysseys2sense.com website. Either press "Odyssey link" in Moodle or enter the URL in your browser. In the pop-up window, press the "Register" button.

Slide 4: Submit your Odyssey profile. Enter the data for your profile. You must enter your actual name for this course in order to get credit for your work. Only the computer knows who you are when you are giving or receiving comments. Press "Save".

Slide 5: Press the "Sign in" button next to the "Register" button. Enter your e-mail address and password. Press the "Sign in" button in the pop-up window.

Slide 6: If your Odyssey is public, skip this slide. If private, press "Enroll with code" on the Producer Press the "Sign in" button next to the "Register" button. Enter your Odyssey ID (a 3 digit number) and the enrollment code (both provided by your teacher). Press the "Enroll" button in the Enroll pop-up window.

Slide 7: Select your Producer: **Statistical Literacy**.

REGULAR PLAY

Slide 8: Select your Odyssey: "Augsburg 2013 Summer 1 Online". Select the assigned challenge. Read any associated attachments. Notice that your overall power is zero. Everyone's power starts at zero. To generate your response, press the "Respond" button.

Slide 9: Submit your "response" in the textbox.

Slide 10: In a word processor, prepare, spell-check and save your answer. Copy it to the clipboard. In Odyssey, paste your answer into the textbox. Press the "Continue" button at the bottom left corner of the text box. In order for your response to be fully entered into the system, you must complete a required number of reviews. Yes, response and review are easily confused. Think alphabetically: "responses" come first; "reviews" come second. "Responses" respond to a challenge; "reviews" review a response.

Slide 11: To review a response, press the "Check it out" button.

Slide 12: Rate the response on three criteria: *Responsiveness*, *Explanation* and *Extension*.

Each of these radio buttons has three levels. *Responsiveness* applies to each part of a challenge. *Explanation* applies to just those parts of the challenge requiring reasons. *Extension* applies to the challenge as a whole. A review may be responsive to the challenge (+1), have a very weak justification or explanation (1/2) and give no extension (0). When you are done, press "Save Review".

Slide 13: This should get you started. Here are two key recommendations. First, spend time crafting your contributions. Your ratings depend on the quality of your contributions. Second, create your initial response in a word processor. Spell-check and save your response. (Things can get lost). Copy and paste your response into Odyssey.

MORE DETAILS::

Slide 14: To see what others said about your initial response. Find the response that says "Your own" in the heading. That is your response. Click on "Check it out".

Slide 15: Compare your power in the Odyssey with the median power of your classmates. To see the history of how your power is calculated, press "Why?"

Slide 16: Recall the structure of a challenge: Response-Review-Critique.

Slide 17: Here's an example of a challenge, a response, a review and a critique of the review. In this case, the reviewer gave the response a 3.5 rating. Since this was the first challenge and the first review, the respondents score was also a 3.5.

Slide 18: Rating a review or a critique. Rate on three new scales: *Accuracy*, *Interest* and *Civility*: A, I and C. Each of these is rated on a three level scale between minus two and plus two with zero being the default. A (2,0,0) is a common rating.

Slide 19: Final recommendations: Reserve high scores for outstanding responses. Always give reasons for your ratings. Critique the reviews you receive. Review more than the minimum required.

BACKGROUND and POWER:

Slide 20: For instructions and a demo video, press links at bottom of Odyssey home page.

Slide 21: Review questions and advice challenges under producer O2S.

Slide 22: A player's power is computer-generated. Your power is based on the ratings received from your reviewers, the power of these reviewers and the number of optional reviews and critiques that you generate.

Slide 23: How power is calculated. A response starts at 50 points. A 4 point review adds about 200 to 300 points (when reviewed by players with average power).

Slide 24: Causes of low power: (1) Failure to respond to a challenge by due date/time. (2) Creating a non-responsive post. (3) Submitting your response at the last minute (You get fewer reviews).