

## 2.5: Discussion- How the Past Influences the Present

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### Post 1: Initial Post

#### Instructions

This posting should be a minimum of one short paragraph and a maximum of two paragraphs. Word totals for this post should be in the 100–200-word range. Whether you agree or disagree, explain why with supporting evidence and concepts from the readings or a related experience. Include a reference, link, or citation when appropriate.

#### For Discussion

Choose ONE of the following questions to respond to in your initial post.

1. In your reading, you studied early scientific management theorists, including Frederick W. Taylor, Frank and Lillian Gilbreth, and Henry Gantt. Do you see any of their ideas in modern-day workplaces? Cite examples.
2. Why do you think the term “bureaucratic” has negative connotations in today’s business environment? What aspects of bureaucracy do people tend to criticize? Are there any aspects of bureaucracy that you think are important in today’s businesses?
3. In the Hawthorne experiments, Elton Mayo discovered that workers performed better when they were “having more fun,” leading him to theorize that workers are motivated more by social dynamics than by economic or environmental factors. How do you think Mayo’s theory is reflected in companies today? Cite examples.
4. Which of the current developments in management practice do you think managers need to watch most closely? Why?

### Posts 2 and 3: Respond to Classmates’ Posts

#### Instructions

After you have created your initial post, look over the discussion posts of your classmates and give at least two thoughtful responses to two different classmates (one per classmate).

A response posting should be a minimum of one short paragraph. Word totals for these posts should be in the 75–100-word range. Whether you agree or disagree, explain why with supporting evidence and concepts from the readings or a related experience. Include a reference, link, or citation when appropriate. The goal of your response posts is to extend discussions already taking place or pose new possibilities or opinions not previously voiced. Your goal should be to motivate the group discussion and present a creative approach to the topic.

#### Contributors and Attributions

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