

[Reply](#)[★ Subscribe](#) [☆ Unsubscribe](#)

Structure dimensions: degree of centralization★

Joyce Shelleman Sep 15, 2019 3:05 PM

Class,

I am seeing some very strong posts to the first discussion question - well done! Here is another optional question for your consideration as we enter the final days of our first discussion period. In our first and second week's lecture modules and readings, we are introduced to some of the key characteristics of organizational theory and structure. These are the essential elements of and ways of describing an organization's structure, such as division of labor into a hierarchy vertically and into specialized functions horizontally, degree of formalization, and so forth. Let's explore one of these here in greater depth.

Consider the basic differences between a centralized structure and one that is more decentralized. Based on the readings and possibly your experience, in what way is this aspect of structure important?

Hint: Your answer need not encompass all the possible ways - even just one is fine, since your colleagues will also reply and draw out different aspects of the question. Be sure to cite course materials in your reply.

Dr. Shelleman