

Assignment Series #1

🚀🔴 Designing The First Mars Colony 🔴🚀

Thinking Through Mars with Game Design



Step 1 – Create

Create a video game concept in which you help plan and implement the first Mars colony.

It's time for the first people to be sent to Mars. You are in charge. Plan their relocation from Earth and the settlement of Mars.

Use your imagination and the GPTs listed below to answer the following questions through your game design.

Your game design must answer:

- Who will go to Mars and why them? How many people?
- How will they get there? What are the risks and mission phases?
- Where will they live, and how will habitats expand over time?
- How will they generate breathable air?
- How will they eat? (food systems + failures)
- How will they get water? (extraction, recycling, rationing)
- Where will they sleep and recover psychologically?
- What work will they do to sustain the settlement? (roles, skill trees, automation)
- What are daily routines like? (shift schedules, health, morale)
- How will the new planet stay peaceful? (laws, governance, enforcement, diplomacy)
- How will they create culture? (music, rituals, stories, humor, art)

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GPTs to use in your brainstorming (in this order)

1. [Introductory Astronomy Video Game Creator](#) (space constraints + Mars environment)
2. [Sociology Role-Play Studio](#) (community + routines + culture)
3. [Political Science Debates](#) (governance + peace systems)
4. [Peace Studies](#) (conflict resolution + law + peace systems)
5. [Philosophy Simulation Creator](#) (ethical dilemmas + hard choices)
6. [Stage Production Simulator](#) (logistics + crisis drills + production pipeline)
7. [Global Music Guide](#) (soundtrack + cultural identity)

Step 2 – Present

In your presentation:

1. In a video or slide presentation with images, describe your video game and explain how your game addressed the required questions.
2. Discuss how the GPTs informed your game design and helped you answer the questions. What prompts worked for you? How did the GPTs enhance or detract from your understanding of the topic?
3. Ask at least two of the GPTs for references and include a list of citations.
4. Explain how using AI changed your understanding of settling Mars. Did it give you a new perspective or a new way to explain it?

*As always, if you find the GPT using Wikipedia, please remind it that the GPT instructions say no Wikipedia.