

**Discussion forum rubric #1**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Poor</b>
Timely discussion contributions	5-6 postings well distributed throughout the week	4-6 postings distributed throughout the week	3-6 postings somewhat distributed	2-6 not distributed throughout the week
Responsiveness to discussion and demonstration of knowledge and understanding gained from assigned reading	very clear that readings were understood and incorporated well into responses	readings were understood and incorporated into responses	postings have questionable relationship to reading material	not evident that readings were understood and/or not incorporated into discussion
Adherence to on-line protocols	all online protocols followed	1 online protocol not adhered to	2-3 online protocols not adhered to	4 or more online protocols not adhered to
<b>Points</b>	<b>9-10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6-7</b>	<b>5 or less</b>

### Discussion forum rubric #2

Criteria	Advanced	Proficient	Not Yet There	Not There at All
Development of Ideas	Well-developed ideas; introduces new ideas, and stimulates discussion (5-6 pts.)	Developing ideas; sometimes stimulates discussion (3-4 pts.)	Poorly developed ideas which do not add to the discussion (1 pt.)	Does not enter the discussion (0)
Evidence of Critical Thinking	Clear evidence of critical thinking-application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation. Postings are characterized by clarity of argument, depth of insight into theoretical issues, originality of treatment, and relevance. Sometimes include unusual insights. Arguments are well supported (5-6 pts.)	Beginning of critical thinking; postings tend to address peripheral issues. Generally accurate, but could be improved with more analysis and creative thought. Tendency to recite facts rather than address issues (3-4 pts.)	Poorly developed critical thinking (1 pt.)	Does not enter the discussion (0)
Clarity	Posts are well articulated and understandable (4 pts.)	Posts are understandable, but some thought is required (2-3 pts.)	Posts are difficult to clarify (1 pt.)	Posts are unintelligible or not present (0)
Responses to Other Students and Instructor	Interacts at least 2 times with other students and/or instructor (4 pts.)	Interacts at least once with other student or instructor (2 pts.)		Does not enter discussion (0)
Timeliness	Individual messages and at least two responses posted before deadline (4 pts.)	Individual message posted before deadline but at least one response is late (2 pts.)	Posting is made after deadline or both responses late (1 pt.)	Everything is late or not completed. (0)

### Discussion forum rubric #3

#### A-LEVEL PARTICIPATION (9-10 Points)

- The participant integrated evidence from the reading, lecture, or past experience in supporting their argument.
- The participant consistently posted insightful comments and questions that prompted on-topic discussion.
- The participant consistently helped clarify or synthesize other class members' ideas.
- If disagreeing with other class members' ideas, the participant stated his or her disagreement or objections clearly, yet politely.

#### B-LEVEL PARTICIPATION (8 Points)

- The participant was notably lacking in one or two of the items listed for A-level participation.
- The participant consistently had to be prompted or coaxed to participate.
- The participant usually, but not always, expressed herself or himself clearly.

#### C-LEVEL PARTICIPATION (7 Points)

- The participant was consistently lacking in two or more of the items listed for A-level participation.
- The participant was extremely reluctant to participate, even when prompted.
- The participant rarely expressed himself or herself clearly.

#### D-LEVEL PARTICIPATION (6 Points)

- The participant frequently attempted (success is irrelevant) to draw the discussion off-topic, even if the participant's participation otherwise conforms to a higher level on the rubric

#### F-LEVEL PARTICIPATION (0-5 Points)

- The participant was rude or abusive to other course participants.
- The participant consistently failed or refused to participate at all, even when specifically prompted or questioned, even if the participant's participation otherwise conforms to a higher level on the rubric.

## Discussion forum rubric #4

Discussion Forum participation provides an opportunity for members of the class to learn from each other based on the readings, different life experiences, and unique perspectives gained from studying course materials. It also assists adult learners in learning how to effectively convey ideas to a group in a professional and respectful manner.

I will probably not have time to grade each and every discussion forum, although I will read all of them. I will plan to randomly sample discussion forums to grade throughout the semester. Each of you is scheduled to participate (either to post or respond) in 14 discussion forums. I will attempt to randomly select at least half of these discussion forums to grade, so that each student has seven grades for discussion forum participation. Evaluation of discussion participation will be as indicated below.

### **Excellent Participation = 5 points**

The learner consistently adds value to the discussion. It is evident that the learner has read and reflected upon the assigned readings prior to entering into the online discussion with peers and instructor. Comments made indicate an understanding of the major concepts studied, and are relevant to the discussion. The learner's comments are respectful of others and their views, and demonstrate appropriate communication (no flaming, dominating comments, or disruptive comments). The learner attends to the discussion topic at hand, and stays focused. The learner's posting or response is of appropriate length.

### **Good Participation = 4 points**

The learner demonstrates understanding of the concepts and reading material, and adds some value to the discussion. It is evident that the learner has read the material, but the reflection and analysis is not of the quality that is evident in "excellent participation." The learner offers fewer "new" or "unique" ideas than an excellent participant, and relies more on the textbook or reading material to create his/her contribution. The learner's comments are respectful of others and their views, and demonstrate appropriate communication (no flaming, dominating comments, or disruptive comments). The learner attends to the discussion topic at hand, and stays focused. The learner's posting or response is of appropriate length.

### **Average Participation = 3 points**

It is evident that the learner has read the material, but has not reflected on it in any depth. The contributions to discussion are clearly tied to what s/he has read, and do not go beyond the required reading material. There is little value-added. The learner's comments are respectful of others and their views, and demonstrate appropriate communication (no flaming, dominating comments, or disruptive comments). The learner attends to the discussion topic at hand, and stays focused. The learner's posting or response is of appropriate length.

**Superficial Participation = 2 points**

The learner may participate in discussion, but comments may be infrequent, untimely, or indicate a lack of preparation prior to responding. Participation does not indicate familiarity with the concepts or readings, and comments are not always relevant to the topic being discussed. The learner's comments are respectful of others and their views, and demonstrate appropriate communication (no flaming, dominating comments, or disruptive comments). The comments may not be of appropriate length.

**Non-Helpful Participation = 0-1 point**

The learner's comments are unrelated to the discussion, or the learner is disrespectful of others views, attempts to dominate the discussion, demonstrates inappropriate communication such as flaming, or is inattentive to the discussion at hand generating side discussions which tend to disrupt others focus of attention.

**Non-Participation = 0 point**

The learner does not participate.