

Grading Rubric for Discussion Topics

Criteria	Failing	Average	Good	Exceptional
<b>Responsiveness to Discussion Assignment Prompt</b>	<b>0.5 Points</b> Does not address discussion questions.	<b>1 Points</b> Addresses some of the discussion questions.	<b>1.5 Points</b> Addresses all discussion questions and directions.	<b>2 Points</b> Addresses all discussion questions and directions in depth.
<b>Communication of Ideas</b>	<b>0.5 Points</b> Does not communicate an idea.	<b>1 Points</b> Ideas are communicated, but there is no evidence to support ideas, opinions and conclusions.	<b>1.5 Points</b> Ideas are communicated clearly and completely. Some examples/resources are provided to support ideas and opinions.	<b>2 Points</b> Ideas are communicated eloquently and thoroughly. Specific examples/resources are provided to support ideas and opinions. Additional resources or application of discussion topic are provided.
<b>Interaction with Peers</b>	<b>0.5 Points</b> Replies to others but with no specific feedback. Repetition of points made by others. Responses discourage other group members to share ideas.	<b>1 Points</b> Adequate feedback is provided on other's ideas.	<b>1.5 Points</b> Meaningful feedback is provided on other's ideas. Point from at least one participant is built upon and/or refuted. Effort to keep discussion flowing is demonstrated.	<b>2 Points</b> Meaningful feedback is provided on other's ideas. Point from at least one participant is built upon and/or refuted. Promotes interaction, asks provocative questions and deepens the discussion. Enthusiasm for the topic and clear effort to keep discussion flowing is demonstrated.
<b>Critical Thinking and Critical Analysis</b>	<b>0.5 Points</b> Relies on personal experience and opinion only. Does not indicate an exploration of the issue(s) under discussion.	<b>1 Points</b> Relies on more than just opinion, may vaguely refer to some resources. Indicates an attempt of exploration of the issue(s) under discussion.	<b>1.5 Points</b> Connects more than one level of analysis and weaves these coherently in at least one post. Explores, explains and/or expands upon the issue(s) under discussion. Comments include personal reaction/experience as well as appropriate resources.	<b>2 Points</b> Weaves more than one level of analysis through all posts. Fully explores, explains, and expands upon the issue(s) under discussion. Comments are based on appropriately cited sources. Connects to other relevant issues, material, experience, etc.
<b>Mechanics</b>	<b>0.5 Points</b> Multiple spelling and grammar errors. Posts lack organization. And/or late posts or replies.	<b>1 Points</b> Less than 5 spelling or grammatical errors. And/or some points are made on a timely basis	<b>1.5 Points</b> Less than two spelling or grammar errors. Writing is clear and organized. All posts are made on a timely basis.	<b>2 Points</b> No spelling or grammar errors. Writing is clear and concise. Postings have obvious logical/sequential organization. All posts are made on a timely basis.