

Sometimes students really need you to spell out the requirements of the discussion board. You might find the sample rubric below to be helpful.

A total of 5 points is available for each mandatory discussion question. It's a good idea to log in to the course three separate days per week to keep up with the discussion.

DQ Participation Tips:

- Participate EARLIER in the WEEK rather than at the last possible moment.
- Reply to others EARLIER in the WEEK rather than at the last possible moment.
- Check in and participate in the discussion three separate days per week.

Your participation in the discussion question is assessed using the rubric shown below:

| Points | Exceptional 1.5 points | Average 1 point | Needs Improvement .5 point | Unacceptable 0 points |
|--------------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Content | Content is complete, accurate and offers new ideas. The discussion is well supported with details that explain the participant's conclusions. Content encourages further discussion on topic. | Content is complete and accurate, but lacking in new ideas, or there may be one areas an opinion is presented without supporting facts or references. Content generally doesn't invite further discussion or investigation. | Ideas were incomplete or had inaccuracies, or there are two or more opinions are presented without supporting facts. | Response was not applicable to the discussion or did not follow Netiquette. |
| Critical Thinking | Clear evidence of critical thinking (application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation). Postings are characterized by originality and relevance to the topic. | Some critical thinking evident, but posting may not directly address the issue. | Lacking critical thinking. Postings tend to address peripheral issues. Generally accurate, but with omissions or clear recitation. | Lacking critical thinking. Postings tend to be inaccurate or unclear. |
| Timeliness | --- | Answer is on or before the due date. | Participant's answer is late but before the end of the week. | Participant did not participate in the discussion. |
| Involvement and Responsiveness | --- | Enters class 3 days per week and responds to other students. Communication encourages further responses, raises questions or politely offers alternative perspectives. | Enters class 2 or fewer days per week and/or fails to responds to others. Interaction is best described as "good idea ..." and of little substance to continue discussion. | Does not enter class during the week and/or fails to respond to others. |

Rubric provided by Terry Morris