

Sample 1

Discussion Board Assignment

Class participation is an important expectation of this course. Students are expected to offer comments, questions, and replies to the discussion question that have been posed for each module as well as to classmate postings. Students are expected to actively participate in EACH module's discussion **EACH week** throughout the semester. The faculty role is as an observer and facilitator. I will be reading all messages and I will participate in the discussion as appropriate. Students may work ahead on the discussion boards but posting on past week's boards will not allow for stimulating discussions with your classmates.

Evaluation of Assignment:

Postings will be evaluated on the quality of the postings and the degree that the postings promote discussion with classmates. Participation on 15 boards is required (13 modules, Breaking the Ice and Web Sites) and postings will be evaluated per board on the below scale. Students can earn the 5 additional points by showing good effort to engage classmates in discussion comparing activities done on other graded assignments. The discussion assignment will be worth a total of 50 points.

1 Point	2 points	3 points
Minimal response to the module question	Posting responds to the question but does not stimulate further class discussion.	Posting fully addresses the module question and stimulates at least one substantial follow-up posting

Sample 2

Discussion Board Rubric

The following points are what is looked for in your original postings to the Discussion Board and your replies to others postings (Total of 10 points for each Discussion Board assignment).

Original Posting (7 points)

1. Mentions at least **2 specific points** from the article or reading. (1 point)
2. Relation of **new information** to **old information** learned in the course to date. (1 point)
3. Relation of information in article or reading to **personal experience**. (1 point)
4. Discussion at a **critical level**, not just recitation of facts from the article. (3 points)
5. Length of posting approximately 1 word processing page. (1 point)

Reply to Other's Postings (3 points)

1. Discuss one point you like/agree with, and one point you dislike/disagree with and explain why.
2. Length should be about ½ page in length.

Sample 3
Discussion Board Rubric

Criteria	A (90-100) Outstanding	B (80-89) Proficient	C (70-79) Basic	D/F (0-69) Below Expectations
Critical Thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rich in content full of thought, insight, and analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> substantial information thought, insight, and analysis has taken place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> generally competent information is thin and commonplace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rudimentary and superficial no analysis or insight is displayed
Connections	Clear connections to previous or current and/or to real-life situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> new ideas or connections lack depth and/or detail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> limited, if any connections vague generalities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no connections are made off topic
Uniqueness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> new ideas new connections made with depth and detail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> new ideas or connections lack depth and/or detail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> few, if any new ideas or connections rehash or summarize other postings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no new ideas “I agree with...” statements
Timeliness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All required postings Early into the discussion Throughout the discussion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All required postings Some not in time for others to read and respond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All required postings Most at the last minute without allowing for response time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some, or all, required postings missing
Stylistics	Few grammatical or stylistic errors	Several grammatical or stylistic errors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obvious grammatical or stylistic errors Errors interfere with content 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obvious grammatical or stylistic errors Makes understanding impossible

Sample 4
Discussion Board Rubric

Criteria	Good □ Very Good	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Content	<p>Discussed thoughtfully and with insight;</p> <p>Key issues from the prompt are identified and answered;</p> <p>Clear discussion with no digressions.</p>	<p>Discussed at surface level:</p> <p>Key issues from the prompt are identified but not all are answered;</p> <p>Clear discussion most of the time.</p>	<p>Difficult to follow;</p> <p>Key issues from the prompt are not identified or answered.</p>
Context	<p>Posted by the assigned due date;</p> <p>Few or no stylistic errors;</p> <p>Organized with direct & clear communication.</p>	<p>Posted by the assigned due date;</p> <p>Several stylistic errors;</p> <p>Weak organization, not always direct & clear communication.</p>	<p>Posted by the assigned due date (or late);</p> <p>Many stylistic errors:</p> <p>Not organized, no direct & clear communication.</p>
Resources to Extend the Discussion	<p>Resources that extend the discussion are added;</p> <p>Link included;</p> <p>Website title and 2 sentence annotation clearly explaining the content included.</p>	<p>Resources that extends the discussion are added;</p> <p>Link included;</p> <p>Website title and annotation added.</p>	<p>No Resource added</p>
Community Responses	<p>Two peer responses indicating understanding of the other author's comments.</p>	<p>1 peer response indicating understanding of the other author's comments.</p>	<p>No peer response</p>

Sample 5
Discussion Board Rubric

Category	1	2	3	4
Promptness and Initiative	Does not respond to most postings; rarely participates freely	Responds to most postings several days after initial discussion; limited initiative	Responds to most postings within a 24 hour period; requires occasional prompting to post	Consistently responds to postings in less than 24 hours; demonstrates good self-initiative
Delivery of Post	Utilizes poor spelling and grammar in most posts; posts appear "hasty"	Errors in spelling and grammar evidenced in several posts	Few grammatical or spelling errors are noted in posts	Consistently uses grammatically correct posts with rare misspellings
Relevance of Post	Posts topics which do not relate to the discussion content; makes short or irrelevant remarks	Occasionally posts off topic; most posts are short in length and offer no further insight into the topic	Frequently posts topics that are related to discussion content; prompts further discussion of topic	Consistently posts topics related to discussion topic; cites additional references related to topic.
Expression within the post	Does not express opinions or ideas clearly, no connection to topic	Unclear connection to topic evidenced in minimal express of opinions or ideas	Opinions and ideas are stated clearly with occasional lack of connection to topic.	Expresses opinions and ideas in a clear and concise manner with obvious connection to topic
Contribution to the Learning Community	Does not make effort to participate in learning community as it develops; seems indifferent	Occasionally makes meaningful reflection on group's efforts; marginal effort to become involved with group	Frequently attempts to direct the discussion and to present relevant viewpoints for consideration by group; interacts freely	Aware of needs of community; frequently attempts to motivate the group discussion; presents creative approaches to topic