

Undergraduate Discussion Rubric

Level of Achievement

Criteria	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Excellent
Writing Quality	0.3 Points Utilizes poor spelling and grammar in most posts; posts appear "hasty"	0.6 Points Few grammatical or spelling errors are noted in posts	1 Points Consistently uses grammatically correct posts with rare misspellings Relevance and Clarity of Post
Relevant and Clarity of Post	0.3 Points Posts topics which do not relate to the discussion content; Does not express opinions or ideas clearly; Makes irrelevant remarks	0.6 Points Occasionally posts topics that are unrelated to discussion content or miss the main point; Opinions and ideas are somewhat unclear	1 Points Consistently posts topics related to discussion topic; Gets to the heart of the matter; Expresses opinions and ideas in a clear and concise manner
Contribution to the Learning Community	0.3 Points Posts an initial entry on the first day but does not respond to others' ideas; Expresses ideas in a somewhat hostile manner	0.6 Points Posts an initial entry on the first day and responds to others' ideas throughout the discussion; May occasionally lack collegiality	1 Points Posts an initial entry on the first day and responds to others' ideas throughout the discussion; Expresses ideas collegially
Knowledge and Understanding of the Course Content	0.3 Points Does not show understanding of course material and readings; Understanding lacks both breadth and depth	0.6 Points Understanding of course material and readings and lectures is imprecise or shallow; Understanding lacks either breadth or depth	1 Points Demonstrates accurate understanding of course material and readings; Understanding is both broad and deep
Critical Thinking	0.3 Points Arguments are poorly structured and incoherent; Does not attempt to substantiate claims with evidence; Does not engage critically with the issues	0.6 Points Arguments occasionally or partially lack structure or coherence; Some unsubstantiated claims; Critical engagement with the issues lacks depth	1 Points Develops systematic and logical arguments; Substantiates claims with evidence; Shows deeper critical engagement with the issues