

Grading Rubric for On-line Discussions and Replies

Each week (with the exception of the three weeks you will be working on group projects), each student will be responsible for 4 postings on the weekly Forum (or Discussion). Each student must answer two questions posted. Some weeks there will be only two questions, other weeks there will be three or more questions and you may choose which two you want to answer. With the exception of Week One, each initial posting will be due on Monday. Then, each student must post two separate replies to any posting by a classmate. These replies will be due on Friday of the same week. You may reply to two postings within the same discussion forum.

Below is the rubric that I will use to evaluate your postings. There are a total of 4 postings required each week, worth 4 points each. So each week you may earn up to 16 points for your posts. The total number of points for the semester for this part of the class is 176 points.

Points	Performance Criteria
4 Points	The comment is original, relevant, demonstrates that you read and reflected upon the assigned material (or your colleague's point of view in the case of a response), and is well written. Four point comments add substantial discussion to the course, and stimulate additional thought about the issue. Authority for sources considered beyond the reading is provided.
3 Points	The comment lacks at least one of the above qualities, but is above average in quality. A three point comment makes a significant contribution to our understanding of the issue being discussed.
2 Points	The comment lacks two or three of the required qualities. Comments which are based solely upon personal opinion or personal experience without reference to assigned readings and other authoritative sources often fall within this category.
1 Point	The comment fails to demonstrate analysis and/or reflection on assigned readings and/or posts of colleagues. However, one point comments may provide important class participation and contribute to a collegial atmosphere.
0 Points	The comment adds no value to the discussion