Small Group Discussion Guidelines

# Purpose

The purpose of this assignment is to help the student collaborate with their peers while using topics discussed during class and reading assignments. The student will also have an opportunity to develop informed opinion while identifying personal biases.

# Course Outcomes

This assignment enables the student to meet the following course outcomes:

CO 1. Implement skills for successful scholarship including effective study skills, note taking, active

listening, learning preferences.

CO 2. Identify characteristics of professional behavior including emotional intelligence,

communication, and conflict resolution.

CO 3. Demonstrate information literacy and the ability to utilize resources.

**Due Date** Weekly – See Course Calendar

# Total Points Possible: 320 Points

Weeks 1 -6 (50 points each) (see Rubric)

Week 7 (**Completed** (20 Points) or **Did Not Complete** (0 Points)

# Requirements

* You will be asked to respond to questions posed on the discussion board on a weekly basis.
* You are expected to demonstrate your understanding of the various concepts discussed in class. These answers should be thoughtful and reflective.
* You are encouraged to identify personal biases and to develop informed opinions based on your understanding of facts you have learned.
* Your discussion responses are graded based on: (a) the quality of reflection and depth of understanding; (b) organization and clarity of thought/ideas; and (c) ability to make an informed opinion.

# Grading Rubric

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Assignment Criteria | Meets Criteria | Partially Meets Criteria | Minimally Meets Criteria | Does Not Meet Criteria |
| Responds to the initial graded threaded discussion question(s)/topic(s), demonstrating knowledge and understanding of concepts for the week using assigned reading(s) and weekly course lesson if applicable.  (20 Points) | Thoroughly answers the initial discussion question(s) applying experiences, knowledge, and understanding regarding all weekly concepts.  **19-20 Points** | Answers the initial discussion question(s) applying experiences, knowledge, and understanding of most of the weekly concepts.  **17-18 Points** | Answers the initial discussion question(s) applying experiences, knowledge, and understanding of some of the weekly concepts.  **16-17 Points** | Does not respond to the initial discussion question(s). Little or no evidence of knowledge or understanding of weekly concepts.  **0-15 Points** |
| Thoughts and ideas are complete, organized, and clearly presented.  (10 Points) | Thoroughly addresses all required elements of the discussion topic.  Thoughts and ideas are well-organized and clearly presented – easy to read and understand.  **10 Points** | Adequately addresses most of the required elements of the discussion topic.  Thoughts and ideas are generally organized, but the logic (“flow”) can be improved.  **9 Points** | Minimally addresses the required elements of the discussion topic.  AND/OR  Thoughts and ideas are poorly organized; Logic is difficult to follow.  **8 Points** | Did not address the required elements and/or thoughts and ideas are poorly organized.  **0-7 Points** |
| Demonstrates ability to make informed opinion, while identifying personal biases.  (20 Points) | Demonstrates *strong* ability to make informed opinions by providing *excellent* support for claims or statements.  Identifies personal biases, and is able to set them aside based on understanding of facts.  **19-20 Points** | Demonstrates *adequate* ability to make informed opinions by providing *some* support for claims or statements. Identifies personal biases, and is able to set them aside based on understanding of facts.  **17- 18 Points** | Demonstrates *limited* ability to make informed opinions, and/or provides *minimal* support for claims or statements. *Relies solely on personal biases* to respond to the discussion topic.  **16 Points** | Does not make informed opinions and/or does not provide support claims or statements. Relies solely on opinions and personal biases to respond to the topic.  **0-15 Points** |
| Total Points Possible = 50 points | | | |  |

# Faculty Feedback Form

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| Assignment Criteria | Points | Comments |
| Responds to the initial graded threaded discussion question(s)/topic(s), demonstrating knowledge and understanding of concepts for the week using assigned reading(s) and weekly course lesson if applicable.  (20 Points) |  |  |
| Thoughts and ideas are complete, organized, and clearly presented.  (10 Points) |  |  |
| Demonstrates ability to make informed opinion, while identifying personal biases.  (20 Points) |  |  |
| TOTAL (out of 50 Points) |  |  |