

Discussion Post Grading Rubric: Created by Ernest Nkansah-Dwamena, Ph.D.

Discussion Post Grading Rubric				
Criteria	Excellent (5)	Proficient (4)	Developing (3)	Minimal (2 or 1)
Social Presence	All required postings show emotion and feelings, evidence of reading, thinks about others' responses, sustains, and builds a sense of class community and commitment.	1-2 postings lack one of the qualities of excellence but still make a significant contribution to the social presence in the course.	2+ postings lack several of the qualities of excellence. Comments that show less concern, often fall within this category.	Postings show little commitment to building a sense of class community.
Cognitive Presence	All required postings are constructive, meaningful, and accurate, backed by citations, provocative, and sustains the discussion.	1-2 postings lack one of the qualities of excellence but still make a significant contribution to the discussion and cognitive presence.	2+ postings lack several of the qualities of excellence. Postings that do little to construct and confirm meaning, often fall within this category.	Postings do little to construct and confirm meaning or sustain the discussion.
Teaching Presence	All required postings offer new information, stimulate additional thought, shows originality, acknowledge other contributions, injecting knowledge from diverse sources, identify areas of disagreement, diagnose misperceptions.	1-2 postings lack up to two of the qualities of excellence but still make a significant contribution to the discussion and teaching presence.	2+ postings lack several of the qualities of excellent. Postings that repeat what has been said often fall within this category.	Postings present little or no new information and do not stimulate new thinking.
Writing	All required postings are well organized, well written, logical, and coherent.	1-2 postings lack one of the qualities outlined in excellent.	2+ postings lack several of the qualities of excellence.	All postings are poorly written.
Number, length, and punctuality of postings	All postings reflect upon, apply, explain, defend, self-assess, synthesize, and/or analyze the issue under discussion. Postings meet minimum number expected, expected length (300-350 word count for initial response and 100-150 word count for each reply), and are posted on time.	1-2 postings lack up to two of the qualities outlined in excellent.	2+ postings lack several of the qualities of excellence, or 1 required posting is missing altogether.	More than 1 required posting is missing.