

## Forum Discussion Rubric

### Synthesis of Concepts

Response shows a clear understanding of main ideas and mentions at least three concepts from the required weekly readings. There are no irrelevant comments and the information is on point. The response provides examples that tie in with the course material being discussed.

(35-40 points)

Response shows a clear understanding of main ideas and mentions at least one concept from the required weekly readings. There are no irrelevant comments and the information is generally on point.

(20-35 points)

Response generally mentions a topic from the weekly readings but does not clearly mention concepts from the required weekly readings. Argument lacks details and there are some irrelevant comments present.

(< 20 points)

### Discussion Participation

Responded to at least two classmates. Paragraph length may vary according to level but in general, two-three full paragraphs. Responses demonstrate careful analysis of other's opinions, and incorporate several terms, concepts, or theories from the required readings.(25-30 points)

Responded to at least one classmate. Responses were at least a courteous paragraph, formed a counter-argument or supported another student's answer, and incorporated one or two terms, concepts or theories from the required readings. (15-24 points)

Minimal interaction with classmates. Responses lacked topic sentence with logically supporting sentences and did not incorporate terms, concepts or theories from the required readings.

(< 15 points)

**Writing Standards**

Response is free of grammatical errors and made proper reference to the course text or to other materials that were used in discussion. Statements are well-organized with a clear thesis statement and concluding thoughts.

(25-30 points)

Response is generally free of grammatical errors and includes proper citations. Statements are clear with a thesis defined, though a few points may be out of place or confusing.

(15-24 points)

Response has numerous grammatical errors and lacks proper citations. Statements are disorganized; perhaps with a general structure defined but stream of logic lost in the argument.

(< 15 points)