

DISCUSSION FORUMS

Evaluation of discussion forum participation:

Discussion forum postings are graded on a scale of 0 to 100. A score of 82 (equivalent to a grade of B-) or higher indicates that the student has met the average response. The following scoring matrix will be used by the professor to assign a score each week.

Point/Value Range	Characterization of Response
0	No response/participation
1 - 81 (C/Failure)	Minimal interaction with other discussion participants is evident. Postings are superficial, lacking clarity, and are not specifically cogent to the topic, as well as not visibly demonstrating efforts to extend the topic toward more in-depth exploration/discussion.
82-89 (B)	The posting foci are clear, concise and cogent, and demonstrate a thoughtful extension, exploration and explication of related issues presented by discussion participants.
90-100 (A)	The postings clearly build upon and synthesize the ideas of other discussion participants' contributions, <i>including clearly identifiable proactive strategies and approaches that have the potential to enhance the nursing profession and leadership.</i>

In addition to the criteria listed in the scoring matrix above, there are some additional facets that can enhance the quality of participation in the graded discussion forums:

- 1) Comment on, clarify and discuss the postings. Scholarly comments, weblinks and discourse that is not just your opinion, is the expectation.
- 2) Constructive critique of the postings (avoid colloquial chatter - see ** below).
- 3) Present alternate positions supported by literature.
- 4) Explore and link issues in the forums to research literature, course readings and external links.
- 5) Articulate the application of leadership strategies to the issues addressed in the forums.

****IMPORTANT: Grades for the discussion forums are based on participation and engaging other students in a dialogue (discussion). Although comments such as “That’s great!”, “ I agree”, “ Great ideas” are important in a general conversation these comments are not considered in grading active participation, critique or dialogue. These statements are regarded as fillers. Please review your own comments in the forums for quality and substance.**