

Initial Discussion Post 50% of Point Total Student thoroughly addresses required content and all questions posed in the discussion prompt. The post demonstrates a solid understanding of the topic, incorporates supporting information from the assigned readings and other outside research.	Points
Excellent: The submitted work demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the discussion topic. The information provided is accurate, in-depth, meets word number requirement, synthesizes information from the course materials and includes a minimum of three scholarly references.	50
Proficient: The submitted work demonstrates an adequate understanding of the discussion topic. The information provided is adequate, meets word number requirement, synthesizes information from the course materials and includes a minimum of two scholarly references; however, all concepts of the discussion may not be fully developed.	40
Poor: The submitted work demonstrates a basic or incomplete understanding of the discussion topic. The information provided is inadequate, does not meet word number requirement, does not focus on the assignment's topic, and insufficient number of references to support content of discussion.	30
Not Met: Either no work was submitted (0 points) or the submitted work does not meet any of the minimum criteria and demonstrates no understanding of the material; no supporting references provided.	0
Peer Responses 25% of Point Total Student responds to at least two of their peers' initial discussion posts; posts build upon the ideas and information posed with supporting scholarly references.	
Excellent: Responds to two or more peers' initial posts; responds to instructor's comments (if applicable); responses demonstrate an analysis of the peers' comments that extend and deepen the conversation, supported by a minimum of two scholarly references.	25
Proficient: Responds to two or more peers' initial posts; responds to instructor's comments (if applicable); responses provide reflection and insight into the posts, supported by a minimum of one scholarly reference.	20
Poor: Responds to peers' initial posts; responses lack clarification or addition of new information into the posts; insufficient scholarly references to support content of discussion.	15
Not Met: Either no peer responses were submitted (0 points) or the responses do not meet any of the minimum criteria; no supporting references provided.	0
Frequency of Distribution of Posts 10% of Point Total Student is active in the weekly discussion forum by posting on at least two separate days.	

Participation in the discussion forum on two separate days of the week.	10
Participation in the discussion forum on one day of the week.	5
No participation in the discussion forum.	0
Academic Writing and Format 15% of Point Total Posts are organized in a logical, clear, and concise manner. Writing is free of spelling and grammatical errors. All references are correctly cited in APA format.	
Excellent: Posts are very organized, well written, and references are correctly cited; no errors in spelling or grammar.	15
Proficient: Posts are adequately organized and satisfactorily written; contains one to two errors in spelling, grammar, or APA formatting of references.	10
Poor: Posts are inadequately organized and poorly written; contains three to four errors in spelling, grammar, or APA formatting of references.	5
Not Met: Either no posts were submitted for evaluation (0 points) or posts are unorganized, poorly written, and contain a substantial number of errors in spelling, grammar, or APA formatting of references.	0
Total Score	