

Sample Rubric for self-assessing participation

Criterion	1	2-3	3-4	5
Promptness & Initiative <i>Contributions are timely, and consistent</i>	1 posting, at the beginning or end of the week	1-2 postings checking in at beginning or end of the week. Responses come several days after discussion	3+ postings Responds to others' within 24 hours	3+ postings at different points throughout the week (daily, every other day). Consistently responds to others in 24 hours or less
Relevance <i>Contributions respond to the topic(s) at hand and demonstrate understanding from the unit's readings & resources</i>	Posts don't relate to discussion content or course resources – remarks are short and/or off-topic	Post are mostly off topic, short, and don't tend to offer new insight. Most posts are unrelated to resources	Posts are generally on topic, and prompt further discussion. It's clear that the readings were understood and incorporated into responses	Consistently posts on-topic messages, demonstrates understanding of readings and takes discussion to a deeper level by asking questions or drawing conclusions. Often cites additional (related) references
Learning Community <i>Contributions make a positive impact on the Learning Community, and others' learning.</i>	Posts rarely acknowledge or refer to others' contributions. (posts in a vacuum, does not make effort to participate in learning community as it develops)	Some attempt to acknowledge and respond to others' contributions, though may take the form of "I agree with (person)" and don't go much further. Occasionally makes meaningful reflection on group's efforts; marginal effort to become involved with group	Posts usually acknowledge others' contributions and some attempt is made to advance the discussion. Frequently directs discussion and to present relevant viewpoints for consideration by group; interacts freely	Postings contribute substantially and frequently to others' learning by weaving together ideas and extending them. Asks good questions. Aware of needs of community; frequently attempts to motivate the group discussion; presents creative approaches to topic