

Forum – Grading Rubric Score	Criteria	Exemplary	Competent	Beginning	Needs Improvement
50%	Synthesis of Concepts	<p>Clear understanding of main ideas and mentions at least three concepts from the required weekly readings. No irrelevant comments and information is on point. Provides examples that tie in with the course material.</p> <p><i>(45-50 percentage points)</i></p>	<p>Clear understanding of main ideas and mentions at least one concept from the required weekly readings. No irrelevant comments and the information is generally on point.</p> <p><i>(37-44 percentage points)</i></p>	<p>Generally mentions a topic from the weekly readings, but does not clearly mention concepts from the required weekly readings. Argument lacks detail and there are some irrelevant comments present.</p> <p><i>(30-36 percentage points)</i></p>	<p>Does not relate to main concepts from the reading, lacks detail, is irrelevant, or incomprehensible.</p> <p><i>(<30 percentage points)</i></p>
20%	Discussion Participation	<p>Replied to more than two classmates. Replies are two or three paragraphs, demonstrate careful analysis of others' opinions, and incorporate several terms, concepts or theories from the required readings.</p> <p><i>(18-20 percentage points)</i></p>	<p>Replied to two classmates. Replies are 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.</p> <p><i>(15-17 percentage points)</i></p>	<p>Minimal interaction with classmates. Replies lacked a topic sentence with logically supporting sentences and did not incorporate terms, concepts or theories from the required readings.</p> <p><i>(12-14 percentage points)</i></p>	<p>Replies are irrelevant, without substance, or absent.</p> <p><i>(<12 percentage points)</i></p>
10%	Diverse Sources	<p>Used more than 2 acceptable sources outside of the required reading for research.</p> <p><i>(9-10 percentage points)</i></p>	<p>Used two acceptable sources outside of the required reading for research.</p> <p><i>(8 percentage points)</i></p>	<p>Used one acceptable source outside of the required reading for research.</p> <p><i>(6-7 percentage points)</i></p>	<p>No sources referenced or unacceptable sources used.</p> <p><i>(<6 percentage points)</i></p>
20%	Writing Standards	<p>Free of grammatical errors and made proper reference to the course text or to other materials. Statements are well organized with a clear thesis statement and concluding thoughts.</p> <p><i>(18-20 percentage points)</i></p>	<p>Mostly 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.</p> <p><i>(15-17 percentage points)</i></p>	<p>Numerous grammatical errors and lacks proper citations. Statements are disorganized; perhaps with a general structure defined, but stream of logic lost in the argument.</p> <p><i>(12-14 percentage points)</i></p>	<p>Numerous grammatical and spelling errors that interfere with reader's comprehension of message. Lacks structure. Uses "texting" grammar.</p> <p><i>(<12 percentage points)</i></p>