Discussion Scoring Guide

Discussions are worth a maximum of 100 points for each week. Points for each week's worth of Discussion are awarded as follows:

100 – 90 points (A)

• Discussion posts meet the requirements of the Discussion thread(s) and are posted on time (the day of each Unit for that week).

• Discussion posts and responses to classmates’ posts include some or all of these qualities:
  o show thorough understanding of what the course covers in the Unit(s)
  o show you have carefully read the materials for the Unit(s), including quoting specific sentences or paragraphs by page number or Web address where appropriate
  o show you have thought deeply about the ideas and information presented in the Unit(s)
  o contribute to the quality of the discussion by adding interesting and appropriate examples, new ideas, and/or thoughts related directly to the discussion thread(s)
  o add relevant information from outside sources not originally included in the online classroom and required textbooks
  o show you have read and carefully thought about at least two of your classmates’ posts by replying with two or more sentences of your thoughts or ideas about what they wrote
  o are respectful when offering suggestions, constructive feedback, or opposing viewpoints

• There are zero or very few minor spelling, punctuation and/or grammar errors.

89 – 80 points (B)

• Discussion posts meet the requirements of the Discussion thread(s)

• Discussion posts and responses to classmates' posts include some or all of these qualities:
  o show some understanding of what the course covers in the Unit(s)
  o show you have carefully read the materials for the Unit(s)
  o show you have thought about the ideas and information presented in the Unit(s)

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- contribute to the quality of the discussion by adding examples, ideas, and/or thoughts related to the discussion thread(s)
- show you have read and thought about at least two of your classmates' posts by replying with two or more sentences of your thoughts or ideas about what they wrote
- are respectful when offering suggestions, constructive feedback, or opposing viewpoints

79 – 70 points (C)

- Discussion posts show merit but do not consistently meet the requirements of the Discussion thread(s)
- Discussion posts and responses to classmates' posts include some or all of these qualities:
  - show a basic understanding of what the course covers in the Unit(s)
  - show only a little evidence you have read the materials for the Unit(s)
  - are vague or unclear about the ideas and information presented in the Unit(s)
  - do little to add to the quality of the discussions by not adding new examples, ideas, and/or thoughts related to the discussion thread(s)
  - do not show you have read and thought about classmates' posts (for example, you reply only with "good example", "good post", "I disagree", etc.)
  - are respectful when offering suggestions, constructive feedback, or opposing viewpoints

- Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar errors made at least one post this week difficult to read and/or understand

69 – 60 points (D or lower, F or W)

- Without arrangement with the instructor, discussion posts are posted after the due date(s) defined as 11:59 p.m. the day of each Unit for that week, and/or generally do not meet the requirements of the Discussion thread(s).
- Discussion posts and responses to classmates' posts include some or all of these qualities:
  - do not show understanding of what the course covers in the Unit(s)
  - show little or no evidence you have read the materials for the Unit(s)
  - are vague or unclear about the ideas and information presented in the Unit(s)
  - spoil the quality of the discussions by adding unrelated examples, ideas, and/or thoughts that are not relevant to the discussion thread(s)
  - include inaccurate or missing information
  - do not show you have read and thought about classmates' posts (for example, you reply only with "good example", "good post", "I disagree", etc.)

- There are many spelling, punctuation and/or grammar errors in half or more of the posts for this week.
- At least one post includes inappropriate or disrespectful language.

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