# Discussion Board Grading Rubric

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| Category | **needs improvement** | **satisfactory** | **good** | **strong** |
| **Promptness and Initiative** | Does not respond to most postings; rarely participates freely | Responds to most postings several days after initial discussion; limited initiative | Responds to most postings within the assigned time period | Consistently responds to postings within the assigned time period; demonstrates good self-initiative |
| **Delivery of Post** | Utilizes poor spelling and grammar in most posts; posts appear “hasty.” | Errors in spelling and grammar evidenced in several posts | Few grammatical or spelling errors are noted in posted | Consistently uses grammatically correct posts with rare misspellings |
| **Relevance of Post** | Posts topics which do not relate to the discussion content; makes short or irrelevant remarks | Occasionally posts off topic; most posts are short in length and offer no further insight into the topic | Frequently posts topics that are related to discussion content; prompts further discussion of topic | Consistently posts topics related to discussion topic; cites additional references related to topic |
| **Expression within the Post** | Does not express opinions or ideas clearly; no connection to topic; does not display critical thinking skills | Unclear connection to topic evidenced in minimal expression of opinions or ideas; displays very few critical thinking skills | Opinions and ideas are stately clearly with obvious connection to topic; demonstrates good critical thinking skills | Expresses opinions and ideas in a thoughtful, clear and concise manner with obvious connection to topic; demonstrates excellent critical thinking skills |
| **Contribution to the Learning Community** | Does not make effort to participate in learning community as it develops; seems indifferent | Occasionally makes meaningful reflection on group’s efforts; marginal effort to become involved | Frequently attempts to direct the discussion and to present relevant viewpoints for consideration by group; interacts freely | Aware of needs of community; frequently attempts to motivate the group discussion; presents creative approaches to topic; is a role model using critical thinking skills |