

Discussion Guidelines and Suggestions

***Discussions are an important part of interaction and learning in the online environment.*

- The forum questions are designed to encourage dialogue among classmates and to hear different views.
- Keep your posts to around 250-350 words (approximately 350 for the original post; 250 for the response). Conversations, rather than long discussion posts, will help to solidify the information you are learning. Posts of 1000 words or more, encourage students to not have the time or energy to comment on more than one other student's post.
- Your discussion posts should draw from the reading materials and outside sources. Make sure to include at least 2 external citations in your Original Post.
- When responding to your peer's comments, make sure your feedback has substance and is related to the reading and lectures. Follow the response prompts and add to the discussion so it goes down an interesting path. All posts are respectful of diverse points of view, including professional, cultural or social.
- Instructors will read all discussion threads and students are expected to do the same.
- Instructors may join the discussion periodically, sometimes to ask a question that might take the discussion in a different direction or to a deeper level.
- Submit original post by Sunday at midnight and the response post by Wednesday at midnight of the week due. If the initial post is submitted late, but still within the discussion board week, there will be a 10% grade reduction from the total discussion grade (e.g., a 3 point discussion will be reduced by 0.3 points). Any posts submitted after the end of the Discussion Board week will not be graded.