

Discussion Forum Rubric

Without the participation of the members of the forum, any discussion will fall flat. All members of the course should contribute to the discussion forums. Both quality and quantity will be judged—if you don't post enough times it is unlikely that the quality of your thinking will be very deep; but just because you post a lot doesn't mean you're really saying anything. Use the following rubric to gauge your performance in the on-line discussion.

<i>Quality</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>5</i>	
Connections	Participant makes few connections of any kind; comments are limited to summarizing and other lower-order thinking	Participant occasionally connects to other themes or other participants but does not do so regularly or does not do so thoroughly or focuses only on one type of connection	Participant makes connections between his/her reading and "real life", the course readings, contemporary issues, and others' postings	x 2 = _____
Questioning	Participant poses very few questions to other participants	Participant poses questions to other participants but the questions are often shallow or yes/no type questions	Participant often poses thoughtful questions to other participants	x 2 = _____
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>5</i>	
Number of Posts	Participant poses 1 original comment per novel or only responds to others' postings or does so infrequently	Participant poses 2 original comments per novel and responds occasionally to others' comments	Participant posts at least 3 original comments (not including responses to others) per novel and responds frequently to others' comments	x 1 = _____
Length of posts	The post is extremely short, lacking in detail and thoroughness	The post is adequate (3-5 lines) but could use more detail	The post is detailed and thorough, usually more than 5 full screen lines	x 1 = _____
A= 27-30	B= 24-26	C = 21-23	Total:	_____ / 30