

CSPS 6393

Discussion Rubric

Your active participation in the discussion forums is essential to your overall success this term. Discussion questions are designed to help you make meaningful connections between the course content and the larger concepts and goals of the course. These discussion offer you the opportunity to express your own thoughts, ask questions for clarification, and gain insight from your peers' responses and instructor's guidance.

Required: Students are asked to create one initial posting and at least two replies to each discussion forum. Specific guidelines are as follows:

Initial Post (1):

- Compose a post of at least two paragraphs, preferably no more than five paragraphs.
- Complete your initial post by Thursday of the module (see dates on Blackboard and Syllabus) at 11:59 PM CST of the lesson week
- Take into consideration material such as course content and readings for the week, additional articles from reliable sources, relation of information from readings to personal experience, and current and previous discussions. Discuss at a critical level, not just recitation of facts from the readings. Please cite your quotes and reference the assigned readings so I know you have read the material. I will read your posts to determine if you have read the material. Please do not try to bluff me and posts will be randomly checked for authenticity.
- **Note:** Discussion at a critical level means discussing things such as your opinion of the point mentioned, why you hold that opinion, what you see wrong with point mentioned, how you see the point consistent/inconsistent with what you have learned so far, implications for the future, consistencies/inconsistencies within the article or reading itself, and so forth. In other words, critiquing an article means analyzing the good and/or bad aspects of the article and justifying your analysis. Do not just tell me what the article or reading states.

Response Posts (2):

- Reply to at least two different classmates outside of your own initial post thread
- Complete the two response posts by the Sunday of the module 11:59 PM CST
- Demonstrate more depth and thought than simply stating, "I agree," or "Ditto." These phrases are unacceptable and do not foster conversation or understanding of the material. Discuss one point you like/agree with, and one point you dislike/disagree with, and why.

Basic Rules:

- Please be respectful in every post. It is acceptable to disagree on a topic, but it is not acceptable to be rude.
- Proper grammar is a must. No text messaging style posts please.
- Emoticons are acceptable to convey tone. Please use appropriately. 😊

Grading Rubric:

Critical Elements	Distinguished 5 points	Proficient 4 points	Emerging 3 points	Not Evident 2-0 points	Weight	Score
Comprehension (this line is for grading initial posts)	Develops an initial post with an organized, clear point of view or idea using rich and significant detail, originality, engagement, and relevance	Develops an initial post with a point of view or idea using adequate organization, detail, originality, engagement, and relevance	Develops an initial post with a point of view or idea but with some gaps in organization, detail, originality, engagement, and relevance	Does not develop an initial post with an organized point of view or idea	2	
Engagement (this line is for grading response posts)	Provides relevant and meaningful response posts with clarifying explanation, timeliness, and detail	Provides relevant response posts with some explanation, timeliness, and detail	Provides somewhat relevant response posts with some explanation, timeliness, and detail	Provides response posts that are generic with little explanation, timeliness, or detail	1	
Writing (this line is for grading the quality of the writing in both initial and response posts)	Writes posts that are easily understood, clear, and concise and demonstrates understanding of material; proper APA citation methods are used where applicable with no errors	Writes posts that are easily understood, clear, and concise and demonstrates understanding of material; proper APA citation methods are used where applicable with few errors	Writes posts that are easily understood, clear, and concise and demonstrates understanding of material; proper APA citation methods are used where applicable with a number of errors	Writes posts that others are not able to understand and does not use proper APA citation methods where applicable	1	
Comments				Total Earned 20 points possible		

