**Southwest Minnesota State University**

**Department of Nursing**

***Online Discussion Evaluation Rubric***

**Please note:** Initial discussion posts are due by 11:59 on Thursday and responses to at least two other people are due by 11:59 pm on Sunday. Any discussion posts after the 11:59 pm deadline on Sunday will be given zero credit. It is expected that students *actively participate and are engaged* in the discussion forums. Each student is expected to read all initial discussion posts, contribute one initial response discussion post for each discussion question, and contribute participation discussion responses to at least two other students’ posts.

Each initial discussion posting should end with a question related to the topic to stimulate further discussion.

The initial posting must include at least two APA citations and references.

The participation postings to peers must be substantial and may include a story about a related experience, a probing question, or point(s) with citations and references from the literature.

Students self-grade their posts the following week by Thursday at 11:59 pm under the Quiz section in the D2L Brightspace courseroom. **The faculty member will review the self-grades for accuracy and reserves the right to adjust any grades.**

**5 points** are possible for each discussion and will be assigned as follows **Read the entire rubric below, this will impact your discussion grade:**

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| --- | --- |
| Rating Points | Mechanics of Posting |
| 1 | Complete sentences, well organized, grammatically correct and free of spelling errors (have used spell check to help ensure this) |
| .75 | Complete sentences, well organized, but some (2 or less per paragraph) grammar and/or spelling errors |
| .5 | Complete sentences, comprehensible, organization could be improved to present a more coherent argument or statement, has three or more grammar and/or spelling errors per paragraph |
| 0 | Poor sentence structure inadequate organization, several grammar and/or spelling errors; run-on sentences |
| Rating Points | Participation in Discussion |
| 1 | Makes postings on at least two different days (Thursday initial post due by 11:59PM, Sun response to two other people due by 11:59PM). Responds to at least 2 peers’ postings |
| .75 | Late first post and/or posts everything 1 day only. Responds to at least 2 peers’ postings |
| .5 | Responds to only 1 peer’s posting |
| 0 | Does not reply to or provides minimal comments and information to other participants |
| Rating Points | Content of Initial Posting |
| 1 | Initial response thoroughly addresses all parts of the discussion, is clearly and concisely stated, and demonstrates that the content was appropriately reviewed, understood, and synthesized. Posting includes a question related to the topic to stimulate further discussion. Posts by 11:59PM Thursday |
| .75 | Initial response addresses most, but not all, of the discussion. Comments are reasonably organized and demonstrate adequate familiarity and analysis of the content and posts by 11:59PM Thursday |
| .5 | Initial response Shows limited knowledge and evaluation of the topic or limited to information that could be derived from prior posts **and/or late initial post** |
| 0 | Message was unrelated to discussion |
| Rating Points | Critical Thinking Evidenced by Posting |
| 1 | Offered a critical analysis of an existing posted idea or introduced a different interpretation to an existing idea |
| .75 | Agreed or disagreed with existing discussion and provided limited justification/explanation |
| .5 | Agreed or disagreed with existing discussion but provided no justification/explanation or support |
| 0 | Provided no evidence of agreement or disagreement with existing discussion |
| *Rating Points* | *APA Format* |
| 1 | Provides evidence-based, scholarly resources to support one’s position on the posed topic or idea; References are correctly & accurately presented in APA Format— in-text referencing within the posting |
| .75 | Provides evidence-based, scholarly resources, but uses incorrect APA Format for in-text referencing |
| .5 | Provides evidence-based, scholarly references and incorrect APA Format OR provides non-scholarly references with correct APA Format in-text |
| 0 | Provides no scholarly reference to support position/ideas in postings/discussion AND/OR uses no APA Format |

Rubric authored by Laura M. Schwarz ©, adapted by Nancyruth Leibold and Laurie Johansen

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