Students will need directions regarding how to participate in online discussions. Faculty may use these example instructions to post in their courses.

Remember to include information regarding when and how frequently you would like students to contribute.

Participating in Discussions

Part of your grade for this class will be based on your participation in online discussions.

Remember that your classmates are counting on you for a vibrant and meaningful discussion. Timely and thoughtful posts contribute to everyone’s learning experience.

You should:
- Respond to at least two of your classmates’ posts each week
- Feel free to show initiative; interpret, synthesize or integrate various threads

Your discussion contributions should:
- Be thoughtful and relevant
- Demonstrate knowledge of the readings and course material
- Provide specific, constructive and supportive feedback that may extend the thinking of others
- Provide evidence of critical thinking regarding the assigned topic
- Encourage continued and deeper discussion
- Offer additional resources or experiences

Your writing should:
- Be concise (please limit your posts to 100-200 words)
- Use standard edited English (don’t forget to spell check)
- Clearly state opinions and ideas
- Use APA format citations

The following are instructions for working in the Discussion Board.

Discussion Board
Discussion Boards are used by the students and instructors to dialogue throughout the course. After making a posting, others can reply to it; a thread is the group of postings based on a single topic.

Replying to an Existing Thread
1. Type your response in a word processor.
2. To get to the Class Discussion Boards, click the "Discussion Board" link on the left hand side of the screen. To get to the Group Discussion Boards, click the "Groups" link on the left hand side of the screen; select your Group, select Group Discussion Boards.
3. Choose the forum to which you are posting.
4. Choose the thread to which you want to reply.
Students will need directions regarding how to participate in online discussions. Faculty may use these example instructions to post in their courses.

*Remember to include information regarding when and how frequently you would like students to contribute.*

5. Click the "Reply" button on the right side of the screen.
6. Copy your response from the word processor; paste it into the Message section.
7. Click the "Submit" button in the lower right corner.

**Starting a New Thread**
1. Type your response in a word processor.
2. Go to the Class or Group Discussion Board forum to which you are posting.
3. Choose "Add New Thread".
4. Type the subject header.
5. Copy your response from the word processor; paste it into the Message section.
6. Click the "Submit" button in the lower right corner.