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# Psychology Undergraduate Discussion Rubric



## Overview

Your active participation in the discussions is essential to your overall success this term. Discussion questions will help you make meaningful connections between the course content and relevant programmatic themes. These discussions give you a chance to express your own thoughts, ask questions, and gain insight from your peers and instructor.

## Directions

For each discussion, you must create **one initial post** and follow up with at least **two response posts**.

For your **initial post**, do the following:

- Write a post of 1 to 2 paragraphs.
- In Module One, complete your initial post by Thursday at 11:59 p.m. Eastern.
- In Modules Two through Eight, complete your initial post by Thursday at 11:59 p.m. of your local time zone.
- Consider content from other parts of the course where appropriate. Use proper citation methods for your discipline when referencing scholarly or popular sources.

For your **response posts**, do the following:

- Reply to at least two classmates outside of your own initial post thread.
- In Module One, complete your two response posts by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. Eastern.
- In Modules Two through Eight, complete your two response posts by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. of your local time zone.
- Demonstrate more depth and thought than saying things like “I agree” or “You are wrong.” Guidance is provided for you in the discussion prompt.

## Rubric

| Criteria                                      | Exemplary   | Proficient   | Needs Improvement   | Not Evident   | Value |
|---|---|--|---|---|-------|
| <b>Contribution to the Learning Community</b> | Initial post actively stimulates the discussion and growth of learning within the community by initiating | Initial post contributes to the learning community by initiating dialogue; posts reflect a clear point of view | Initial post somewhat contributes to the learning community, with an attempt to initiate dialogue | Initial post does not contribute to the learning community, with no attempt to initiate dialogue; post does not | 25    |

|  |  |  |   |   |    |
|--|--|--|---|---|----|
|  | including constructive dialogue; posts reflect a clear focused point of view pertaining to subject matter that is supported by credible resources and is designed to motivate the group's professional dialogue (100%)   | clear point of view and are supported by credible resources (85%)  | initiate dialogue, posts may reflect some challenges in communicating a clear point of view that may not be supported by credible resources (55%) | post does not reflect a clear point of view that is supported by credible resources (0%)                      |    |
| <b>Relevance to Programmatic Themes: Self-Care, Social Justice, Emotional Intelligence, Career Connections, Ethics</b> | Initial post integrates multiple applicable programmatic themes and elaborates on how each theme relates to the discussion topic (100%)  | Initial post elaborates on how one or more applicable programmatic themes relate to the discussion topic (85%)                       | Initial post attempts to integrate one or more applicable programmatic themes, which may relate to the discussion topic (55%)                     | Initial post does not integrate one or more applicable programmatic themes (0%)                               | 25 |
| <b>Advancement of Discussion</b>   | Response posts significantly add to the learning community and advance the discussion by building upon peers' initial posts; posts integrate multiple views from other learners and sources, views are applicable to content and professional practice, and they extend learning within the community (100%) | Response posts add to the learning community and advance the discussion; posts integrate views from other learners and sources (85%) | One or more response posts attempt to add to the learning community and provide content that somewhat advances the discussion (55%)               | One or more response posts do not add value to the learning community and fail to advance the discussion (0%) | 15 |
| <b>Professional</b>  | Posts are clear and  | Posts are clear and  | Posts are   | Posts lack clarity,   | 20 |

|                      |   |   |  |   |      |
|----------------------|---|---|--|---|------|
| <b>Communication</b> | concise, and demonstrate respect and awareness of peers' viewpoints; proper APA citation methods used where applicable, with minor errors in citations (100%) | concise, and demonstrate respect and awareness of peers' viewpoints; proper APA citation methods used where applicable, with few errors in citations, grammar, and syntax (85%) | understandable, and use proper APA citation methods where applicable, with a number of errors in citation, grammar, and syntax (55%) | contain numerous grammar and syntax errors, and/or do not use proper APA citation methods where applicable (0%) |      |
| <b>Timeliness</b>    | N/A   | Submits initial post on time (100%)   | Submits initial post one day late (55%)  | Submits initial post two or more days late (0%)   | 15   |
| <b>Total:</b>        |   |   |  |   | 100% |









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