

CLASSROOM DISCUSSIONS

Feel free to ask open ended questions



HOW TO CREATE A DISCUSSION QUESTION...

Rather than repeating material from the textbook in lecture, much class time will be devoted to clarifying topics covered in readings, tying topics together, and expanding ideas introduced in the text.

Thus, questions should seek to clarify points of confusion or to expand ideas just introduced briefly. For the most part, simple factual questions should be avoided (unless the facts are in dispute). The instructor will assume that students have a clear understanding of topics not covered in questions, and students should be prepared to contribute to class discussions on all areas not asked.

Toward this end, students must read assigned materials before class and formulate one discussion question & 'submit' the question to the Blackboard Discussion Board Sunday by 11:59 PM. Some appropriate types of questions are:

1. Questions to clarify ideas
2. Questions about the relationships between ideas or approaches
3. Questions regarding assumptions behind approaches
4. Questions concerning the motivation or necessity of ideas or protocols
5. Questions that elicit student responses that must consist of more than one sentence
6. Questions that allow different or original responses or pattern of responses
7. You do not need to have completely worked out answers to all your questions, though you should have some possible answers.

Remember that your purpose is to stimulate analysis and discussion, not to test factual recall. Therefore, questions should be open-ended. If you can answer a question in a few words, don't use it.

CLASSROOM DISCUSSION SCORING GUIDE

Your overall semester grade will consist of 110 discussion points. Therefore, I suggest that you pay much attention to this area. We will be discussing the information covered in each learning plan in class and I will utilize the following scoring guide to rate your work. Each week will be worth 10 points (11 learning plans x 10 points = 110 points).

Scoring Standard

You must achieve a rating of “Yes” on all criteria to demonstrate competence.

Rating Scale

Criterion is demonstrated in an exemplary manner; work is of the highest quality

Yes = 2 Points

No = 0 Points

Scoring Guide

CRITERIA	RATINGS	
Learner has submitted questions before 11:59pm Sunday night.	2	0
Learner questions should seek to clarify points of confusion or to expand ideas just introduced briefly.	2	0
Questions relate to the topic covered in the Learning Plan	2	0
Learner has provided discussion questions that elicit response from fellow students.	2	0
Learner was prepared to contribute to class discussions on all areas not asked	2	0

Total Possible Points = 10