

Rubric: Assessment of Student Class Participation

In this class, students must take responsibility for their own learning. Class participation/discussion represents 15% of your grade in Jour479e. This is designed to give students a roadmap on how they will be assessed and graded on their participation and discussion.

1) Class Discussions

Content. Students who excel will display some or all of the following qualities, such as relating the discussion to current affairs; speaking up when they do not understand; making relevant points; asking topical questions; displaying curiosity. In addition, these students advance class discussion by offering alternative perspectives with supporting data/evidence. They also can challenge the instructor's ideas, ideas of other students, or those presented in readings or other course materials.

Frequency. Students who excel display these qualities in every class session.

Preparation. Students who excel have questions or observations prepared and they bring assigned readings to class. This class will closely examine texts we read for language, structure and argument. Students who fail to bring the text aren't prepared for class, even if they have read the assignment. Students also will view assigned videos and bring questions or observations to class.

Behavior That Impedes Class Discussion includes using Facebook/Twitter/WhatsApp (any social networking site), web surfing or texting in class. If you are absent or late to class, you miss the opportunity to participate, and this will be reflected in your grade.

Student Self-Assessment. Students also will assess their own contributions in a one-page essay:

1. Propose what grade you deserve for class participation thus far, and
2. Defend your proposed grade with evidence from the classroom.
3. Students who can't find enough evidence to make a case for an excellent grade can spell out specific steps they will take to improve.

2) Group Work

Active participation means assisting your fellow students to help solve problems in the workshops.

Student Peer Assessment for Group Work. Students may be asked to anonymously rate each other's work in group settings.

3) Preliminary Assessment

By Oct. 13, the instructor will post a provisional grade for class discussions/participation on Canvas.