

Weekly Assignments and Discussions (50% of Total Grade)

Weekly assignments and discussions for this course comprise **50% of your overall grade**. While you may be accustomed to participating in face-to-face classes by attending and speaking up in class, in an online class your participation will consist of completing weekly activities and posting your thoughts to discussion forums. Reading and responding to others' responses in writing complete the weekly discussions.

As a result of these weekly activities/discussions, you will be reading and writing more in this class than in most courses. These interactive weekly interactions with your classmates and the instructor will offer a rich opportunity to share impressions of the reading and viewing material.. Depending on your reading and writing skills, you should expect to spend at least 9-12 hours per week on this course.

The weekly assignment will be posted each week in the Week's Overview. Some weeks may include a case study, a trip to the grocery store, creating a menu plan, or reading an article and presenting your argument. Follow the assignment instructions carefully and remember the first post for the weekly assignment is **always due on Friday of each week at 11:00 p.m.**

Each week you are required to post a minimum of 2 posts: one by Friday and one by Sunday to receive full credit. The first post, is your response to the activity and the second post is to comment to at least one classmate's post. A post that says "I agree" isn't satisfactory.

See Guidelines for Student Participation in Online Discussion Forums.

Rubric for Scoring Participation in Discussion Forums			
Criteria	Excellent	Good	Poor
Timely contributions	Well distributed throughout week. <i>(2 points)</i>	Somewhat distributed. <i>(1 point)</i>	Not distributed throughout the week. <i>(0 points)</i>
Responsiveness to assignment. Demonstration of knowledge and understanding gained from assigned readings.	Demonstrate readings are very clearly understood and incorporated well into responses. <i>(2 points)</i>	Demonstrate some coverage of readings. Readings are somewhat understood and incorporated into responses. <i>(1 point)</i>	Postings are superficial and have questionable relationship to reading material. <i>(0 points)</i>
Adherence to discussion guidelines.	Four or more guidelines followed. <i>(2 points)</i>	Two-three guidelines followed. <i>(1 point)</i>	Guidelines ignored. <i>(0 points)</i>