Rubric for Scoring Class Participation

6: A student receiving a 6 makes significant and meaningful contributions to the on-line discussion; comes to class prepared; contributes readily to the conversation but doesn’t dominate it; makes thoughtful contributions that advance the conversation; shows interest in and respect for the views of others; participates actively. (Letter grade equivalent: A).

5: Student makes significant and meaningful contributions to the on-line discussion; comes to class prepared and makes thoughtful comments when called upon and contributes without prompting; shows interest in and respect for others’ views. A 5 score may also be appropriate to an active participant whose contributions are less developed or cogent than those of a 6 but still advance the conversation. (Letter grade equivalent: B+ to A-).

4-3: Three types of students occur in this range. The first is a student who participates in discussion, but in a way that is not fully productive. Such students may dominate the discussion, make rambling or tangential contributions, interrupt the discussion with digressive questions, or bluff their way when unprepared. The second type of student comes to class prepared, but does not voluntarily contribute to discussions or makes only minimal comments when drawn into the discussion. Despite this, these students generally show interest in the discussion and listen attentively. Students in these categories may or may not be making significant contributions to the on-line discussion; on-line discussion is a critical element of participation, but not a substitute for live participation. Finally, the third category is a student who participates actively in the live discussion, but does not engage in the on-line discussion. (Letter grade equivalent: B- to B)

2-1: Students in this range often seem on the margins of the class and may have a negative effect on the participation of others. Students receiving a 2 often don’t participate because they haven’t read the required reading materials. Students receiving a 1 may be actually disruptive, radiating negative energy via hostile or bored body language, or be overtly rude. (Letter grade equivalent: D to C+).

0: Students receiving a 0 are not attending class and does not participate in the on-line discussion. (Letter grade equivalent: F).