



Classroom Participation and Discussion

To foster a productive, respectful, and engaging learning environment, students are expected to adhere to the following participation and discussion guidelines in this course:

1. General Expectations

- Arrive prepared by completing assigned readings and reviewing relevant materials before class.
- Actively participate in discussions, whether in-person or online, by contributing thoughtful responses and engaging with classmates.
- Demonstrate professionalism and respect for diverse perspectives, experiences, and opinions.
- Maintain a positive and constructive approach to discussions, focusing on ideas rather than individuals.

2. Communication and Respect

- Listen actively and attentively when others are speaking.
- Allow all students an opportunity to contribute; avoid dominating the conversation.
- Refrain from interrupting or speaking over others.
- Use respectful language and tone in both verbal and written communication.
- Avoid inflammatory, offensive, or discriminatory remarks.

3. Engaging in Discussions

- Support arguments with evidence from course materials, research, or personal experience when appropriate.
- Be open to different viewpoints and engage in critical thinking rather than personal attacks.
- Ask clarifying questions to further understanding rather than dismissing ideas outright.
- Disagree respectfully and provide reasoned explanations for alternative perspectives.

4. Technology and Online Etiquette

- When participating in online discussions, use proper grammar, punctuation, and professional language.

- Avoid using all caps (which can be interpreted as shouting) and excessive emojis.
- Be mindful of tone, as written communication lacks verbal cues and body language.
- Follow all online discussion guidelines set by the instructor, including deadlines for contributions.

5. Classroom Conduct

- Arrive on time and remain engaged throughout class.
- Silence or put away unnecessary electronic devices unless permitted for class activities.
- Respect classroom policies regarding food, drink, and side conversations.
- Be aware of body language and nonverbal communication to maintain a respectful atmosphere.

6. Addressing Concerns

- If a disagreement arises, approach discussions with a solution-oriented mindset.
- Contact the instructor if you feel uncomfortable with any aspect of class discussions.
- Follow college policies for reporting any instances of harassment or discrimination.