

## **PARTICIPATION and DISCUSSION RUBRIC – 20%**

I will grade your participation according to the following criteria, originally developed by Prof. Briann Greenfield of CCSU and Prof. John Tyler of Brown University:

I will evaluate negatively all comments that are vague, repetitive, unrelated to the topic at hand, disrespectful, or betray a lack of reading. These contributions will lower your participation grade.

**A (100-90):** The student attends every class and makes regular contributions that reflect exceptional preparation. Ideas offered are almost always substantive and provide major insights into the readings or the discussion. Arguments are supported by evidence from the texts and presented persuasively. The student always approaches group work with seriousness, stays on task, and encourages others to do the same. The student shares an equal load in group work and often serves as the leader. Questions are appropriate, on-topic, and reflect a high level of genuine interest. The student listens carefully and respectfully to others, never monopolizing the conversation. If this person were not a member of the class the quality of discussion would be diminished markedly. All classroom presentations were well-prepared, organized, and effective.

**B (89-80):** The student attends almost every class and makes fairly regular contributions that reflect thorough preparation. The student offers fairly substantive ideas that provide good insights into the readings or discussion. The arguments presented are often supported by evidence and presented very well. The student often approaches group work with seriousness, stays on task, and encourages others to do the same. The student shares an equal load in group work. Most questions are appropriate, on-topic, and reflect a high level of interest. The student often listens carefully and respectfully to others. If this person were not a member of the class the quality of discussion would be diminished. Classroom presentations were almost always well-prepared, organized, and effective.

**C (79-70):** The student attends class regularly and makes regular contributions that reflect satisfactory preparation. Ideas offered are sometimes substantive but seldom provide good insights. Arguments are sometimes supported by evidence and are often presented well. The student generally approaches group work with seriousness and stays on task. The student shares an equal load in group work. Questions are usually appropriate and reflect a level of interest. The student listens carefully and respectfully to others. If this person were not a member of the class the quality of discussion would be diminished somewhat. Classroom presentations were well-prepared, organized, and effective.

**BELOW C (<70):** The student says little or nothing in class, consequently there is not a basis for evaluation. If this person were not in class the level of discussion would not change. The student does not take group work seriously and seldom shares the load equally. OR: The student has missed a substantial number of class meetings and comments reflect an inadequate level of preparation. Ideas offered are seldom substantive or provide insights. Arguments are not supported by evidence or presented persuasively.

Student fails to take group work seriously and to stay on task. Student often takes up valuable class time by talking on the side, not paying attention, or otherwise distracting from the class. If this student were not a member of class his or her peers would have had a better learning experience. Classroom presentations were not well-prepared, organized, nor effective.