

Participation Rubric

Note: merely attending class but not saying anything during large class discussion will not earn you a good participation score. If you prefer not to participate in large class discussion, you should make sure to participate in other ways, e.g. by coming to my office hours to discuss topics from class or emailing me comments.

Going into depth	(3) You try to generate arguments for and against views and discover where, if anywhere, arguments go wrong.	(1.5) You sometimes give arguments for and against views and sometimes try to discover where, if anywhere arguments go wrong.	(0) You typically assert views rather than trying to give arguments for or against them. When arguments against views are raised, you rarely try to discover where they go wrong.
Engagement with peers	(3) You interact with your peers, for instance by offering arguments for or against their views, asking them questions, or trying to clarify what they said.	(1.5) You sometimes interact with what your peers say.	(0) You typically raise your own points while ignoring those of others.
Willingness to help views that seem to have problems	(3) You are willing to examine a view, even one that is surprising or unpopular, in order to see what it has going for it. When objections are raised to a view, you don't immediately give up on it, but try to think through what might be said in its favor.	(1.5) You are sometimes willing to examine new views and sometimes try to defend a view in response to objections.	(0) You are unwilling to examine new views and/or quickly give up on a view when faced with the slightest objection.
Good attitude	(3) You maintain a good attitude, even if the material gets frustrating, and treat your classmate's views with respect, even when you disagree with them or when they haven't thought about an issue as carefully as you have.	(1.5) You usually have a good attitude and treat your classmate's views with respect.	(0) Sometimes you have a bad attitude or treat your classmate's views with disrespect.
Aid to discussion	(3) You offer comments that aid the discussion, for instance by offering insightful comments about our readings, introducing important new positions, arguments or objections, or helping clarify things that are confusing.	(1.5) You sometimes offer comments that aid the discussion.	(0) You rarely offer comments that aid the discussion.