

Assessment Criteria for Online Discussions

The following assessment criteria was used in an on-line facilitation course called MOOM or Moving Out of the Middle available through the Concord Consortium at <http://www.concord.org>

Each required participant posting will be assessed using the following criteria:

| Value | Characterization of Response |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0 | No response. |
| Completed. | Single entry, no interaction with other participants' postings evident. |
| Generative Comment | The response builds on the ideas of another one or two participants and digs deeper into assignment questions or issues. |
| Collaborative Level | The response integrates multiple views and/or shows value as a seed for reflection by other participants' responses in its thread. Alternatively, the response contributes language, a metaphor or a study tool that serves to deepen the dialogue. Such threads moderate the discussion for all. |

Course participants may post to a discussion as often as they like; however, a minimum number of postings is noted in each posting assignment.

The course will be most productive for all if everyone meets the minimum in a timely manner. Our purpose for setting criteria for comments to discussions is to help you see clearly the role of comments for learning in a virtual course. If you aspire to "Collaborative Level" here in this course, you will be well accustomed to the role by the end of twelve weeks. Happily, if everyone integrates their comments in the ongoing dialogue and illuminates a path to deeper reflection, surely we are about to share many interesting insights.

From another view, you may be learning how to manage netcourse time if you haven't taken netcourses before. You may not always have enough time to read every comment to every discussion and post in an integrated and insightful way AND also keep up with the reading and assignments. If the discussions are quite active, it can get overwhelming!

So your challenge is to read and post as attentively and constructively as you can while at the same time being sure you allow yourself the time needed to complete the weekly reading and assignments.