**Discussion Post Rubric (6 points possible but the assignment is technically out of 5 points)**

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|   | **Proficient (1 pt.)** | **Progressing (0.85 pts)** | **Beginning (0.7 pts)** | **Entry (0.5 pts)** | **Insufficient (0 pts)** |
| Answering posted questions or shares perspectives (Comprehension) | Critically understands the depth of issues found in the situation/material by expanding on the topics and explaining the significance in a professional manner. Correctly addresses each side by summarizing each sides' stance and justifies their personal position. | Comprehends the breadth of issues found in the situation/material by thoroughly explaining the topic(s) and their personal position. | Identifies the basics of the information in the situation/material by briefly mentioning or listing topics as they state their personal position. | Misunderstands the situation/material by presenting ideas or definitions that are flawed or incorrect and/or only responds with a short and direct personal position. | Does not respond. |
| Additional Article (Critical Research) | Links to a primary scientific source (journal article). Names the source of the material and author. Shows mastery in identifying the qualifications of an appropriate source (specific credentials, prior papers, published in a peer reviewed journal, time spent in profession) and examines any biases (has a financial stake in the outcome). | Links to a secondary source (news article or blog style website). Names the source of the material and author. Identifies source's qualifications (relevant credentials, prior work, or time spent in profession) and examines any biases (has a financial stake in the outcome or publication). | Links to a secondary source (news article or blog style website). Names the source of the material and author. Superficially identifies source's qualifications (reputation of source) or examines any biases (has a book to sell or gets advertiser money from article's adds). | Links to a secondary source (news article or blog style website). Names the source of the material and author. | Does not provide a link and/or state the source of the resource. (it's a package deal). |
| Additional Article (Reflective Summary) | Thoroughly describes/summarizes the resource's content and explains its importance/relevance. | Thoroughly describes/summarizes the resource's content. | Lists (3 or more) general topics from the resource. | Identifies 1 or 2 general topics discussed in the resource. | Keeps the content of the resource a secret. |
| Relate to the course concepts (Clarifying Understanding) | Explains how key concepts connect to the chapter and how this information will be important to the student moving forward. | Explains how key concepts connect to the chapter. | Identifies key issue(s) from the chapter but does not explain the relationship and/or significance. | Incorrectly explains and or identifies key issues. | Does not raise key issues. |
| Post a question (Clarifying Questions- Quality) | Offers a question with the core of a scientific hypothesis or results from extended thought and synthesis of information. | Question seeks more information than is available in the textbook or for which the answer is a functional explanation. | Asks about a simple or complex definition, concept, or fact that could be looked up in the textbook. | Question requires only a simple answer, does not make logical or grammatical sense, or is based on a basic misunderstanding or misconception. | Does not ask question. |
| Student Response (Finding Significance) | Extends the conversation by responding to two students and suggests possible consequences and implications of the topic. | Extends the conversation by responding to two students and identifies the significance of the information. | Responds to one or two students and reflects back on the information provided without offering new information. e.g. Student says "I agree", "I learned about", or "That was fascinating" and repeats the topic without any extended discussion. | Responds to only one student or a response contains inaccuracies or oversimplification in how the information is discussed. | Does not respond to anyone. |
| Spelling and Grammar | (0 Points) 0 - 2 spelling / grammar issues. | (-1 Points) 3 or more spelling / grammar issues. |