**Biology Online Discussion Rubric**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COURSE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(The basic structure of this rubric was devised using the Psychology Department at San Jose State University’s model)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CATEGORY** | Unacceptable  (Below Standards) | Acceptable  (Meets Standards) | Good  (Occasionally Exceeds) | Excellent  (Exceeds Standards) | **SCORE** |
| **Participation in the Discussion Forum** | Discussion postings do not contribute to ongoing conversations or respond to peers' postings. There is no evidence of replies to questions. | Discussion postings sometimes contribute to ongoing conversations as evidenced by  asking related questions or,  making a statement contributing to the discussion forum. | Discussion postings contribute to the class' ongoing conversations as evidenced by  statements or references relevant to the discussion forum. | Discussion postings actively stimulate and sustain further discussion by building on peers'  responses including — building upon a peers statement or providing additional discussion points and evidence to the forum. | **3 points** |
| **Netiquette** | Written responses to the discussion board forums show disrespect for the viewpoints of others. | Some of the written exchanges on the discussion board forum demonstrate respect for the viewpoints of others. | Written responses on the discussion board show respect and interest in the viewpoints of others. | Written exchanges on the discussion board show respect and thoughtfulness in respect to peers' gender, cultural background, etc.. (sensitivity). | **3 points** |
| **Grammar & Mechanics** | Grammatical errors or spelling & punctuation substantially detract from the discussion forum posting. | Very few grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors hinder the reading of the discussion forum posting. | Grammatical errors or spelling & punctuation are few and do not detract from the discussion forum posting. | The discussion forum posting is free of grammatical, spelling & punctuation errors. | **4 points** |