

**Political Science 10, Winter 2017**  
**Introduction to Political Science: American Politics**  
**Discussion Section TA: Taylor Carlson**

**Participation Rubric**

<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Description</b>
A- to A (4.5-5)	<p><i>Without these people, the quality of discussion would be diminished markedly</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frequent contributor in large group discussions each week. Active and engaged in small groups and paired discussions and/or in class activities. Does not ramble consistently or dominate the room.</li> <li>• Comments and questions are grounded in the readings and demonstrate depth of understanding or attempts to grapple with them; ideas help to build momentum in class discussions.</li> <li>• Tries to connect Section readings to lecture and current events.</li> <li>• Attends Section essentially every day. Always courteous.</li> </ul>
B- to B+ (4-4.49)	<p><i>Without these people, the quality of discussion would be diminished</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistent commenter each week in large group, but some runs of silence or inactivity occasionally detectable. Active and engaged in small groups or pairs. May occasionally ramble or dominate the room.</li> <li>• Comments are helpful and draw upon readings, but less consistently so and occasionally may be more grounded in intuition or personal experience.</li> <li>• Sometimes connects Section readings to lecture and current events</li> <li>• Attends Section most days. Always courteous.</li> </ul>
C- to C+ (3.5-3.99)	<p><i>Without these people, the quality of discussion would be occasionally (but not frequently) diminished</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrequent participant each week in large and small group discussions and/or activities. May occasionally ramble or dominate the room.</li> <li>• Comments are rarely grounded in the readings—more reliant on intuition or personal experience</li> <li>• Frequently absent from Section. Always courteous.</li> </ul>
D- to D+ (3-3.49)	<p><i>Without these people, the quality of discussion would be essentially unchanged</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extremely rare or essentially no participation each week in large group. Attentive, but not involved. May or may not be involved much in small groups. May ramble or dominate the room.</li> <li>• Hard to tell to what extent this person is trying to engage the readings because comments are infrequent, or nonexistent</li> <li>• Frequently absent from Section. Always courteous.</li> </ul>
F (< 3)	<p><i>Without these people, the quality of discussion would be unchanged or perhaps even better</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No engagement in large group discussion. Works alone during small group discussions and class activities. May ramble or dominate the room.</li> <li>• Impossible to tell to what extent the person has tried to engage the readings because comments are essentially nonexistent.</li> <li>• Excessive absences from Section. May fail to demonstrate courtesy.</li> </ul>

*Participation Rubric adapted from Professor Paul Manna, College of William & Mary*