

## ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES FOR CLASSROOM PARTICIPATION

As indicated on the course description, students will be evaluated *daily* according to their level of participation in class. Basic, *minimal* requirements are for all students enrolled in this class to:

- *attend* all classes and to arrive *punctually*;
- demonstrate in class that they have *read and studied the assigned material to the best of their abilities*;
- submit all *assignments* punctually and according to directions;
- show *caring respect* for all members of the class, through informal interventions and through organized collaborative assignments.

As indicated, the expectations listed here are *minimal*. It has been proven that *students learn most and best when they engage actively in classroom discussions*. “Active engagement” means *producing the knowledge* that you acquire by formulating it *in your own words*, orally or in writing. They should understand that their engagement is an *act of generosity* since they contribute in this way to the educational experience of their classmates overall. It should be understood that “engagement” encompasses not only *expressing an opinion or formulating an idea*, but also *asking questions* that help the professor identify difficulties students generally might be experiencing with the material.

The scale for distinguishing between what constitutes “excellent” (90-99), “good” (80-89) and adequate (70-79) participation, is based on these principles:

- 95 Student complies with basic expectations and *regularly* intervenes in class in a collaborative and supportive way; interventions (comments, questions) are *always* pertinent and show a bona fide desire to help sharpen our focus and deepen our understanding.
- 90 Student complies with basic expectations and *usually* intervenes in class in a collaborative and supportive way; interventions (comments, questions) are *always* pertinent and show a bona fide desire to help sharpen our focus and deepen our understanding.
- 88 Student complies with basic expectations and, *often*, intervenes in class in a collaborative and supportive way; interventions (comments, questions) are *usually* pertinent and show a bona fide desire to help sharpen our focus and deepen our understanding.
- 85 Student complies with basic expectations and, *sometimes*, intervenes in class in a collaborative and supportive way; interventions (comments, questions) are *usually* pertinent and show a bona fide desire to help sharpen our focus and deepen our understanding.
- 80 Student complies with basic expectations but intervenes *infrequently* intervenes in class.
- 78 Student complies with basic expectations but *never or practically never* intervenes in class.
- 75 or lower  
To one degree or another, student has failed to comply with expectations.

If a student needs to miss class due to either illness or some other emergency, they are expected to *communicate this by email* to the professor. First and foremost, you are expected to *take care of your own health* and to help maintain a healthy environment for others by staying home when you become ill. Your professor is here to help you make up anything you miss for justifiable reasons.