**Class Participation**

20% of your grade for this class is based on your participation in discussion. Participating in discussion does not necessarily mean talking a lot or showing everyone else that you know or have studied a lot. Good discussion participation involves people trying to build on, and synthesize, comments from others, and on showing appreciation for others’ contributions. It also involves inviting others to say more about what they are thinking. Some of the most helpful things you can do are call for a quiet interlude, bring a new resource to the classroom, or post an observation online. So there are multiple ways quieter learners can participate.

Below are some specific behavioral examples of good participation in discussion:

- Ask a question or make a comment that shows you are interested in what another person says

- Ask a question or make a comment that encourages another person to elaborate on something they have already said

- Bring in a resource (a reading, web link, video) not covered in the syllabus but adds new information/perspectives to our learning

- Make a comment that underscores the link between two people's contributions & make this link explicit in your comment

  Use body language (in only a slightly exaggerated way) to show interest in what different speakers are saying

- Post a comment on the course chat room that summarizes our conversations so far and/or suggests new directions and questions to be explored in the future
Make a comment (online if this is appropriate) indicating that you found another person's ideas interesting or useful. Be specific as to why this was the case.

Contribute something that builds on, or springs from, what someone else has said. Be explicit about the way you are building on the other person's thoughts – this can be done online.

Make a comment on your CIQ that prompts us to examine discussion dynamics.

When you think it's appropriate, ask the group for a moment's silence to slow the pace of conversation to give you, and others, time to think.

Make a comment that at least partly paraphrases a point someone has already made.

Make a summary observation that takes into account several people's contributions & that touches on a recurring theme in the discussion (online if you like).

Ask a cause and effect question - for example, "can you explain why you think it's true that if these things are in place such and such a thing will occur?"

Find a way to express appreciation for the enlightenment you have gained from the discussion. Try to be specific about what it was that helped you understand something better. Again this can be done online if this suits you better.