**3.3 Grading criteria general**

Online discussion participation makes up 20% of your final grade.

Discussion participation reflects the quality of your online engagement within the Thought discussions according to the discussion participation criteria in the next section. The format of your engagement should not simply involve directly answering the question, but rather responding to your peers’ ideas and thoughts relating to the question as well as linking to your individual professional experience and subject expertise.

Discussion participation overall is worth 100 marks:

* 50 marks for your self-assessed online participation +
* 50 marks for tutor-marked online participation

The final grade is therefore comprised of your self-assessed (50%) online participation and the tutor's assessment of your online participation (50%).

**3.4 Grading criteria**

Your online participation assessment consists of two parts, a self-assessed element and a tutor-assessed element, each of which are marked against the same critieria explained below:

**Participation self-assessment & tutor assessment**

You will  put forward to Turnitin the 4 - 6 posts (this is flexible in order to allow for variation in posting word count up to 1500 W) from at least 2 Unit Thought discussions which you will demonstrate on a feedback sheet together best fulfil the marking criteria (10 marks each).

Clinical trials come alive in dialogue and you are evaluated for your Thought discussion participation as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Description** | **Max marks** |
| Timeliness | A post on Sunday night before the close of a discussion at midnight is too late for anyone to have a chance to respond to you. You are online in the first week in order to give your peers a chance to engage with you and your views. | 10 |
| Engagement | You are an attentive participant in the discourse going on around you in the Thought discussion. Your posts draw from thoughts posted and ideas discussed by others in a constructive way (ie, not simply confirming a similarity or difference in views, but elaborating and explaining similarities or differences.) | 10 |
| Relevance | Your posts relate directly to the general themes of the Thought discussion as prompted by  the questions and/or subsequent discussion. | 10 |
| Critical Thinking | Postings are original and demonstrate evidence of critical analysis and exploration of concepts and ideas beyond the lessons and resources of the course, but still relevant to the general themes of the Thought Questions, or other themes that have emerged in the discussion. | 10 |
| Evidence base | Postings are supported by evidence from your own experience, current literature, an earlier Unit discussion, etc. Where relevant third party material is referenced. | 10 |

Remember, a repetition of what another course participant has written is not worth full credit on top of standing in the way of learning anything at all!

You and a tutor will each assess the quality of your contributions overall. Not every post is expected to fulfill each criteria, but rather the sum of 4-6 posts (1200-1500 W) in at least 2 out of the 4 main Thought discussions are chosen by you for evaluation as representative of your overall participation.

**3.5 Self-assessment marking template**

Here it is:

[Self assessment marking template for downloading (WORD)](http://www.mscct.ed.ac.uk/docs/gcp/gcp_onlineparticipation_selfassessmenttemplate.docx)

**3.6 General format**

Your Online participation submission should include a title page (**WITHOUT** your name) containing:

* The words ‘Online participation submission for GCP course’
* Your UUN number
* The words ‘ University of Edinburgh 2013/14 Semester 2’

In terms of written content you are guided by the assignment specification Sections 3.3 Grading criteria.

**Self-assessment written format**

Your self-assessment piece should be included in the assignment section marked "Self-assessment".

For ease of reading and marking please use the structure below for organising your chosen posts which best fulfil the marking criteria as then assessed by yourself in the last column (a self-assessment table template will become available here shortly).

One post may satisfy more than one marking criteria, but in total the sum of the posts should be close to 1500 (unique) W or 4 - 6 different posts.

Be as specific as possible in your justification (in 50-100 W each)-do not write "I have fulfilled the marking criteria a, b, & c." We want to know the reasons why you believe you have earned the marks, ie, the evidence:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Your supporting post(s)  (total word count around 1200-1500 W) copy-pasted into this column** | **Points out of 10 you have awarded yourself & justification (75-100 W/criteria))** |
| Timeliness | Unit 1 (Wed. Feb....) "Supporting post 1 timeliness......' | X/10 pts: "I feel I have attained X/10 pts for timeliness overall as I usually posted over a week before the Unit discussion closed. This was the case for Unit 1 (see supporting posts), for example. The Unit 1 post I selected was responded to by.....which prompted a new debate about.....for the rest of the week.......Had I posted later this may not have been possible...." |
| Engagement | Unit 2 (Mon Jan....) "Supporting post 1 engagement.....'  Unit 3 (Sat. March...): "Supporting post 2 engagement.......' | X/10: "I have awarded myself X/10 pts for engagement as I have met most of the criteria for engagement demonstrated by the posts selected. In Unit 2 I responded a number of times to my peer by commenting.......and in Unit 3 I directed a number of questions to the tutors about..." |
| Relevance | Unit 4 (Mon. Jan....) "Supporting post 1 relevance......' | X/10: "I feel  I have attained X/10 pts for relevance against the criteria set out in the marking scheme. The selected post demonstrates this well as the question asked......was met by my thoughts around......" |
| Critical Thinking | Unit 3 (Wed. Feb...) "Supporting post 1 critical thinking......'  Unit 4 (Mon. Jan....) "Supporting post 2 critical thinking......' | X/10: "I have given myself  X/10 pts for critical thinking for the posts selected. In the Unit 3 post I challenged the notion that....and in Unit 4......." |
| Evidence base | Unit 2 (Mon. March....) "Supporting post 1 evidence-base......' | X/10: "I feel  I have attained X/10 pts for evidence base as I usually included the reference from which the information shared evident in the Unit 2 post (previously highlighted above for relevance) where....." |