RN to BSN Weekly Discussions Guidelines & Grading Rubric:

For online courses, faculty will post weekly to the Discussion Forum. Each discussion forum includes participation requirements within the instructions. Your responses should be substantive and reflect your thoughts and critical thinking related to the discussion topic. Citing references to reading assignments and other professional resources to validate your understanding of the discussions are required.

The student is responsible for completing the Learning Module (LM) discussion board assignments. Each student is responsible for an initial posting and to at least **TWO** peer’s postings during each LM. Initial posting is due by Wednesday at midnight and your replies completed by Sunday at midnight. Late postings will result in no credit.

* As a large part of the final grade, students are expected to participate regularly in Discussion Forum assignments. The grading rubric for contributions follows.
* Discussion Forums are ongoing interactive processes that occur throughout the LM. Interactions with other class members offer enriched learning. Last-minute posts do not demonstrate your best work.
* Contributions are evaluated on presentation of a meaningful ‘informed opinion,’ i.e., *synthesis* of your preparation on the topic, interaction with peers and faculty, and ongoing learning. Useful posts may include and are not limited to:
* Posting your ‘take’ on the issue (this is informed by your prep, not a ‘gut reaction.’
* Asking critical thinking questions
* Offering alternate interpretations and additional insights
* Contributing to the learning of the group

**Weekly Discussions Grading Rubric:**

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| **CRITERIA** | **20 Points For Each Criteria** | **17 Points For Each Criteria** | **12 Point For Each Criteria** | **0 Points For Each Criteria** |
| Integration of Assigned Reading Assignment and Professional Resources | Discussions show evidence of knowledge and understanding of reading assignment and applicability of professional resources; include other resources that extend the learning. | Discussions show evidence of knowledge and understanding of reading assignment and applicability to professional resources.  | Discussions show little evidence of knowledge and understanding of reading assignment and applicability to professional resources. | Discussions show no evidence of knowledge and understanding of reading assignment and applicability to professional resources. |
| Responses to Other Students and Instructor | Student responds to the posted questions with thoughtful ideas, clearly communicates ideas or opinions, and poses additional questions that deepen the discussion. | Student responds to the posted question with thoughtful ideas and clearly communicates his or her ideas or opinions. | Student responds to the posted question in a way that does not clearly indicate deep thought or original ideas or opinions. | Student responds to the posted question but misses the main idea of the session or discussion. |
| Utilizes Professional Language | Postings consistently show appropriate vocabulary and writing style. | Postings usually show appropriate vocabulary and writing style. | Postings often include inappropriate vocabulary and writing style. | Postings consistently show inappropriate vocabulary and writing style. |
| Ensures Timeliness Of Discussion  | Student posted initial response on time and participated in the forum discussions on other days as required in the instructions. | Student posted initial response on time but only partially met participation requirements for the week. | Student posted initial response late but did participate in forum discussions on other days as required. | Student did not post initial response on time and did not participate on additional days. |
| Grammar, Syntax, APA Format | APA format, grammar, spelling, and/or punctuation are accurate, or with zero errors. | APA format, grammar, spelling, and/or punctuation are accurate, or with one to three errors. | Four to five errors in APA format, grammar, spelling, and syntax noted. | Post contains six or greater errors in APA format, grammar, spelling, and/or punctuation. |
| **Total Score** |  |  |  |  |