Discussion Board Participation Guidelines

This course is designed as a doctoral seminar, in which learning occurs largely through group discussions. The discussions will center on critical analysis of readings about supervision theory and practices, reflection on personal supervision experiences, and scholarly discourse. Because this is an online course, discussions will occur in an asynchronous discussion board environment, and will rely on students’ frequent and active course participation. Although the instructor participates in weekly discussions, all participants share equally in the responsibility of facilitating meaningful group discussion.

Weekly discussions will run from Sunday-Saturday of each week. Specific instructions and topics for each week’s discussion will be provided by the instructor in the weekly folders (see the “Course Documents” section of course site).

Logistics

You will log in to the weekly discussion forum and participate (i.e., post) in discussions a minimum of three days each week. Your participation each week should include the following:

• **Post your initial response by Tuesday (11:59 p.m.).** This initial post should provide your scholarly response to the topic, with reference to content from the week’s readings. The post should be at least 2-3 paragraphs (approx. 300-400 words). You are encouraged to present personal viewpoints with support from course readings or other scholarly resources, pose questions to for group consideration, challenge an assertion made by authors of course readings, etc.

• **Read peers’ initial posts. Respond to at least 2 peer posts.** Your response should address specific content of your peer’s comment and extend the dialogue by supporting or challenging an opinion, presenting an opposing viewpoint, posing a question to seek additional input, etc. Your response should include substantive content related to the topic, without simply responding with “I agree” or similar surface-level comments. Length should be at least 1-2 paragraphs (approx. 150-250+ words).

• **Extend and contribute to the quality of the group discussion by returning to the discussion board and participating in multiple discussion threads throughout the week.** You are expected to respond to any questions posed directly to you in response to your initial post. You are also encouraged to direct classmates to other relevant resources (e.g., websites, fact sheets, publications) related to discussion threads.

Evaluation of Discussion Board Participation

Your participation in group discussion is worth up to 20 points each week. Points will be assigned based on the extent to which:

• Posts are substantive, professionally written, and reference course readings and materials

• Posts reflect an understanding of the main points of authors and explore details or subtleties of authors’ points

• Posts include original ideas/value judgments supported by sound logic and/or evidence from course readings and materials. Posts include relevant examples from personal experience to illustrate points.

• Posts reference and reflect on the commentary and questions of your classmates in a way that demonstrates respect for them, their ideas, and their concerns

• Participation contributes to the quality of the group discussion by writing thoughtful comments/questions and extending group discussion by engaging peers in further discussion of ideas

• Participation occurs across at least 3 days of the discussion (Sun-Sat)