



PSY 530 Breakout Session Blog Rubric

Your active participation in the breakout session blogs is essential to your overall success this term. These blogs are designed to help you make meaningful connections between the course content and the larger concepts and goals of the course and to allow you to learn from your peers and refine your thinking about key concepts. Breakout sessions offer you the opportunity to express your own thoughts, reflect on and respond to the thinking of your peers, and synthesize your emerging ideas about major themes and questions in the course materials.

Requirements for Breakout Session Blogs

Students are required to post one initial post and extend their thinking with one follow-up post that synthesizes their continuing and increasingly complex thinking on the topic or question.

NOTE: The initial post should contain relevant information from the readings and should end with a reference list. The follow-up post may also refer to readings.

For your initial post (1), you must do the following:

- Navigate from the learning module to the Breakout Session Blog and click the blue “Start a New Thread” button.
- Title your post utilizing the following convention: First Name Last Name – Initial Post. A student named Jane Doe would title this post Jane Doe – Initial Post.
- Compose a post of two to three paragraphs. *This should contain all relevant information from the readings and should end with a reference list.*
- In Module One, complete the initial post by Thursday at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time of the module week.
- In Module Two through Ten, complete the initial post by Thursday at 11:59 p.m. of your local time zone.
- Take into consideration material such as course content and discussion topics from the previous modules.
- Reference sources using APA style within the post and in the reference list at the end of the post.

For your follow-up post (1), you must do the following:

- Navigate from the learning module to the Breakout Session Blog and read through all your peers’ initial posts.
- Click the blue “Start a New Thread” button in the upper left-hand corner. *Please do not submit your follow-up post as a comment.*
- Title your post utilizing the following convention: First Name Last Name – Follow-Up Post. A student named Jane Doe would title this post Jane Doe – Follow-Up Post.
- Compose a post of two to three paragraphs that shows how your thinking has developed through this exercise by synthesizing both your initial thinking from your initial post and how your thinking has evolved from reading through all your peers’ initial posts.
- In Module One, complete the follow-up post by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time.
- In Modules Two through Ten, complete the follow-up post by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. of your local time zone.
- Demonstrate depth of thought appropriate for a graduate-level course.

Rubric

Critical Elements	Exemplary	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Not Evident	Value
Comprehension	Develops an initial post with an organized, clear point of view or idea using rich and significant detail (100%)	Develops an initial post with a point of view or idea using appropriate detail (90%)	Develops an initial post with a point of view or idea, but with some gaps in organization and detail (70%)	Does not develop an initial post with an organized point of view or idea(0%)	30
Timeliness		Submits both posts on time (100%)	Submits at least one post one day late (70%)	Submits at least one post two or more days late (0%)	10
Critical Thinking	Draws insightful conclusions that are thoroughly defended with evidence and examples (100%)	Draws informed conclusions that are justified with evidence(90%)	Draws logical conclusions (70%)	Does not draw logical conclusions (0%)	25
Synthesis or Refinement in Thinking	Discovers keen insights through the course of the exercise, as evidenced in the idea content of the follow-up post (100%)	Enacts significant development or refinement in conclusions or questions, evidenced in the idea content of the follow-up post (90%)	Exhibits limited or cursory development or refinement in thinking (70%)	Does not demonstrate a development or refinement in conclusions or questions (0%)	25
Writing (Mechanics)	Initial and follow-up posts are easily understood, clear, and concise, using proper citation methods where applicable, with no errors in citations (100%)	Initial and follow-up posts are easily understood, using proper citation methods where applicable, with few errors in citations(90%)	Initial and follow-up posts are understandable, using proper citation methods where applicable, with a number of errors in citations (70%)	Initial and follow-up posts are not understandable and do not use proper citation methods where applicable (0%)	10
Earned Total					100%