

Assessment Criteria
Political Science 103
Spring 2009

Class Participation

Effective **class participation** and **good citizenship** includes:

1. Showing up on time, prepared, and ready to go
2. Bringing your primary text and any required secondary readings with you to each class
3. Looking up words you are unfamiliar with in the readings; noting unfamiliar concepts and asking about them in class (trust me, you'll be doing everyone in the class a favor)
4. Reading actively and carefully – marking up and responding to the issues your text raises
5. Listening actively and respectfully to whoever is speaking
6. Responding to your colleagues by name

Read the statements below, and see how you would assess your own participation:

If I earn an **A** for participation, I speak regularly, making major, substantive contributions to discussion in every class. I ask probing questions, listen attentively to classmates, respond to them by name, and offer insights that help all of us learn by stimulating further discussion.

If I earn a **B** for participation, I contribute to discussion in nearly every class; however, my contributions are often fairly brief answers to straightforward questions. I ask questions for clarification rather than those that move the conversation forward.

I earn a **C** for participation if I speak infrequently and usually when called upon to speak by the instructor or another student. My comments do not demonstrate thoughtful preparation.

If I never speak I will earn a **D or an F for participation.**