Rubric for Journal Essay

CRITERIA	EXEMPLARY	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	VERY POOR	Points Possible
Subject Knowledge: accuracy and depth of content, knowledge construction and argumentation, relevance to topic and sufficient length, and coherency.	Depth of content reflects thorough understanding of topic. Main points well supported with relevant and sufficient support. Provided precise explanation of key concepts.	Main points adequately substantiated with relevant and sufficient support. Accurate explanation of key concepts.	Provides some support for main points, but needed to elaborate further with explanations. Support is relevant.	Provides irrelevant or no support. Explanation of concepts is inaccurate or incomplete.	Provides inaccurate response.	30
Comments: involve reflection, critical analysis, and references (if applicable).	Discussion postings display an excellent understanding of the required readings and underlying concepts including correct use of terminology. Postings integrate an outside resource, or relevant research or real-life application to support important points. Quotes are cited appropriately.	Discussion postings display an understanding of the required readings and underlying concepts including correct use of terminology and proper citation.	Discussion postings repeat and summarize basic, correct information, but do not link readings to outside references, relevant research or specific real- life application. Sources are not cited.	Discussion postings show little or no evidence readings were completed or understood. Postings are largely personal opinions or feelings, or "I agree" or "Great idea", without supporting statements with concepts from the readings, outside resources, relevant research, or specific real-life application.	Discussion postings show no evidence that readings were completed or understood.	
Academic Writing Skills: posts conform to college level writing with correct grammar, spelling and punctuation.	Written responses are free of grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors. The style of writing facilitates communication.	Written responses are mostly free of grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors. The style of writing generally facilitates communication.	Written responses include some grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors that distract the reader.	Written responses contain numerous grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors. The style of writing does not facilitate effective communication.	Written responses are poor and contains incorrect grammar, spelling or punctuation. It limits the reader's ability to follow ideas or thoughts.	
Total Points Earned:						/30