



# Forums & Blogs – 3.2 – Grading Forums

## Why Do This

To encourage meaningful forum contributions, grade the forums based on:

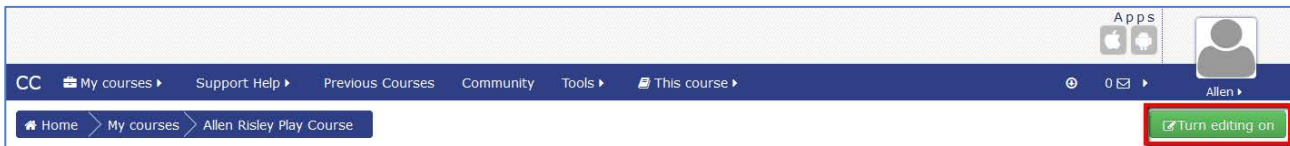
1. Quantitative and qualitative contributions to the discussion
2. Responsiveness to discussion and demonstration of knowledge and understanding gained from assigned readings.
3. Adherence to forum etiquette and protocols as described in your syllabus

There are two different ways to review and grade a student’s forum contributions:

- Assigning individual grades (ratings) for each post and reply. This is best used when you want to evaluate the students’ posts in the context of the entire discussion.
- Grading all of the forum activity for a student in a holistic manner, assigning one grade for the quality of all post combined. When you use this method, only one of the student’s posts will have a grade assigned, so you will need to explain to students that the grade covers all posts for that forum.

See [Forum Introduction](#), for a description of the 5 forum types, when to use each, the different ways to use forums and how to write effective forum questions.

1. Log onto Cougar Courses and go to the main page of your course.
2. Click Turn editing on.






## Grading (Rating) Individual Posts for an Entire Discussion

3. Access the forum in one of two ways:
  - Hover your mouse over the **This course** tab at the top of Cougar Courses and select **Forums**. From the forums page, locate and click on the **forum name**.

Learning forums				
Topic	Forum	Description	Discussions	Unread posts
Topic 1	<a href="#">Forum 0: Introductions and Define Sociology</a>	1) For part 1 of the first Forum, tell us a little about yourself: hobbies, major, activities. Share to the level you are comfortable with. Please include a current photo in your profile. 2) Forum One - Part 2: "The first fruit of the [sociological] imagination is that the individual can ..."	42	0
Topic 2	<a href="#">Forum 1: Queen Bees and Wanna Be's</a>	Please read the chapter 1 before viewing the video. Then respond to the three questions at the bottom for our first Forum.  It is a fundamental tenet of the sociological perspective that gender roles are socially constructed. Masculinity and femininity are socially defined and socially ...	39	0

- Or, locate the forum in the appropriate course section and click the **forum name**.

4. Click on the title of the first discussion thread.

Discussion	Started by	Replies	Unread ✓
<a href="#">forum 3</a>	 <a href="#">Antonia Villanueva</a>	2	0
<a href="#">Culture</a>	 <a href="#">Angelica Garcia</a>	0	0
<a href="#">Forum 3</a>	 <a href="#">Maria Gonzalez</a>	4	0

5. The initial discussion appears with the replies nested below. Read the initial discussion. Use the rating dropdown and select the score you wish to assign to this post.

Note, the scoring (rating) method is determined by you during the forum settings when you select the *Aggregate type*.

**Ratings**

Roles with permission to rate: Manager, Instructor, Grader Without Design Access

Aggregate type:

6. Continue reading the replies to the initial discussion and assigning a score from the rating box below the post.



**forum 3**  
by [Antonia Villanueva](#) - Thursday, September 13, 2012, 11:00 AM

I have experienced culture shock a few times. We foster family was white. Living with them for a couple of years. The food they cooked was different. I had to get used to them. After being with that foster family for a while, my second foster family was African American. My foster family was into it. I also tried food that I had never heard of before. I had to be able to adapt to their culture and customs.

I agree that the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis implies that language is such as African American than Negro, African American name, in some cultures it is considered rude to use certain gestures have different meaning in other cultures and can offend others.

It is good that our culture has a strong emphasis on family. It seems like winning is everything. We need to acknowledge advertising everywhere, even cereal boxes!

Maximum rating: - Rate...

**Re: forum 3**  
by [Chelsea Tidwell](#) - Friday, September 14, 2012, 1:08 PM

Your example on what to call elders is a great one. I had to use gestures when traveling so you do not offend others.

Also, its good that you got to experience different cultures.

Maximum rating: - Rate...

**Re: forum 3**  
by [Angelica Garcia](#) - Wednesday, September 19, 2012, 10:00 AM

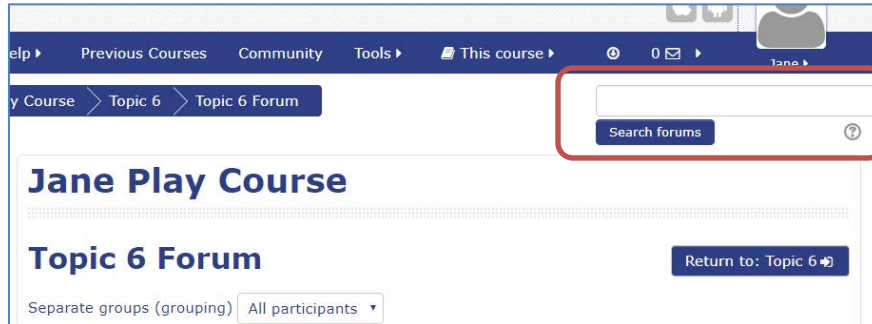
I agree with your 'elder' comment very much.

Maximum rating: - Rate...

## Assigning One Grade for All Posts by a Student

You will need to refer to a list of the enrolled course participants. One way to do this is to go to the Navigation block>Courses>Course name>Participants. Select all, copy and paste into a Word document.

1. Access the forum, by following steps 1-3 above.
2. Click the **Search forums** button at the top of the screen.



3. In the Advanced search screen, **select the forum you are grading** from the “Choose which forums to search” dropdown.

A screenshot of the 'Advanced search' form. The heading says 'Please enter search terms into one or more of the following fields:'. The form contains several input fields: 'These words can appear anywhere in the post', 'This exact phrase must appear in the post', 'These words should NOT be included', and 'These words should appear as whole words'. There are also date range filters for 'Posts must be newer than this' (set to 1 January 2000 00:00) and 'Posts must be older than this' (set to 7 December 2012 16:35). A dropdown menu labeled 'Choose which forums to search' is set to 'All forums' and is highlighted with a red box and an arrow. Below it is a field 'These words should be in the subject' and another field 'This name should match the author', which is also highlighted with a red box and an arrow. A 'Search forums' button is at the bottom.

4. Enter the **last name** of the first student on your list of participants in the last field: “This name should match the author”.
5. Click **Search forums**.

6. In the Advanced search screen, **select the forum you are grading** from the “Choose which forums to search” dropdown.

Please enter search terms into one or more of the following fields:

These words can appear anywhere in the post

This exact phrase must appear in the post

These words should NOT be included

These words should appear as whole words

Posts must be newer than this  1 January 2000 00 00

Posts must be older than this  7 December 2012 16 35

Choose which forums to search **All forums**

These words should be in the subject

This name should match the author

7. Enter the **last name** of the first student on your list of participants in the last field: “This name should match the author”.
8. Click **Search forums**.

9. Read all posts and determine the combined score for all posts. Use the **rating dropdown** to grade one of the posts, usually the student’s discussion post (not replies), or to the best post.

**Forum 6: Deviance -> Forum 6: deviance #5 -> Re: Forum 6: deviance #5**  
by [redacted] Wednesday, October 17, 2012, 11:48 PM

Hi Fernando,  
The article you read sounds pretty interesting. Now in days there are so many ways to help those people that suffer from domestic violence and yes this grant it's a pretty good idea. I wonder if there are others cities that have receive some kind of grant to help reduce domestic violence.

Maximum rating: - Rate...

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#)  
[See this post in context](#)

**Forum 6: Deviance -> Discussion 6 -> Re: Discussion 6**  
by [redacted] Wednesday, October 17, 2012, 11:20 PM

Hi Michael,  
I agree with you that California should have an alternative school for troubled youth. That will help the youth to see the world from a different perspective. There will not be as much troublemakers. Instead of getting in trouble in those jails they will get educated and inform.

Maximum rating: - Rate...

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#)  
[See this post in context](#)

**Forum 6: Deviance -> Forum 6**  
- Tuesday, October 16, 2012, 2:50 PM

FBI Releases 2010 Hate Crime Statistics

The article that I choose to read was about the statistics on hate crime. It was shocking to see those numbers. According to the FBI the results are base on particular religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity/national origin, or physical or mental disability.

Religion, origin, and orientation play a big role on the crimes. Out of the 6,624 crimes the 20% were motivated by a religious bias, 19.3% were motivated by a sexual orientation bias, and 12.8% were motivated by an ethnicity/national origin bias. This date is about the results on 2010 imagine how they are now. As I was

10. In the *Search forums* field, **delete only** the text after “user:” This should be the name of the previously graded student.
11. Type the next student’s name at the end of the search field text, leaving the remainder of the text intact.

