Discussion Evaluation:
Below you will find descriptions of different levels of class participation. These descriptions should help you understand the type of participation that will facilitate meaningful class discussions, and should help you understand how I will evaluate your class participation grade for HMXP 102.

A -- Excellent
Offers thoughtful insights that illuminates the readings
Clarifies confusion that may have emerged in the discussion
Connects current reading with previous readings or class topics
Asks questions that stimulate discussion
Challenges peers with opposing views and synthesizes the comments of others
Actively participates in group discussions and contributes to group assignments
Listens and understands the ideas articulated by others
Understands the readings or can precisely articulate what is not understood
Has engaged in critical reading prior to class (annotating books, taking notes, etc.)
Actively takes notes, responds to, or reflects upon information shared in class

B -- Above average
Provides accurate and relevant information from the reading to the discussion
Engages in discussion; does not simply respond to discussion leader’s questions.
Offers interpretations and analysis rather than simply reporting information
Demonstrates a clear understanding of the reading or topic
Actively participates in group discussions and contributes to group assignments
Distinguishes one’s own opinion from that of the author’s
Connects one’s own ideas with others’ interpretations of the readings
Has engaged in critical reading prior to class (annotating books, taking notes, etc.)
Actively takes notes, responds to, or reflects upon information shared in class

C -- Average
Listens attentively but is reluctant to participate—“Others stole my lines”
Comments mostly in relation to personal experiences and feelings
Answers informative questions only
Understands the general ideas in the readings but uncertain about specifics
Confuses evidence and arguments
Participates in group discussions, but relies on peers to contribute most answers
Interrupts others to assert one’s own ideas
Has not necessarily engaged in much meaningful critical reading prior to class

D -- Below Average
Is silent, inattentive, or distracted
Engages in side conversations with peers
Understands readings in a sketchy way, or significantly misunderstands
Does not contribute meaningfully to group discussions or assignments; is not prepared
Is minimally aware of arguments; has not read assigned readings prior to class
Offers comments that are often off-topic or hinder the discussion

F-- Unacceptable
Is doing work for another class or sleeping
Is disrespectful to peers or to one’s instructor
Interrupts instructor or peers
Comes to class unprepared, without books or class supplies