**ID 301 - Introduction to Peace and Conflict Studies**

Blog Rubric

**Reflection Blog** – Each student will participate in the class blog, through which you will share with the class your reactions to the assigned readings.  You are required to write at least ten posts throughout the semester, each covering a different reading assignment.  **Blog posts are due by 11:59 pm on the Monday** **before we begin discussing a reading assignment**.  (For example, a post on Chapter 2 of Barash should be posted on Blackboard before 11:59 pm on Monday, January 23rd).  Each post should be 500-600 words long, and is worth a maximum of 10 points; your work will be graded based on deepness of reflection and application of concepts from the readings.  Please “tag” your username and sort your posts into the appropriate categories. The categories correspond to the weekly topic. Please include the number of your post in the title. *Note:*  The Final Exam will be composed of questions taken from the blogs, so it is a good idea to check and comment on your classmates’ posts regularly throughout the semester.

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| **Content demonstrating critical reading** | **grade** | **Rubric description** |
| 1. Definition of terms and concepts 2. General statement of the authors message (gist of the read material) 3. Identification of major themes (main arguments) 4. Integration of material – analogies and praxis. Why did you read this – should be combined with other information that you have access to – experience, film, other classes, relevant literature, cases etc. 5. Application – what can you do with this   **Note** that opinions and application are encouraged but are optional and will not affect your grade   * How is the material applicable to what we are doing? * How is it applicable to other course or personal life? * What’s your straight out opinion of this reading?   **Find more details in the Reading Guide Format document** | 10 | Meets the technical requirements\* of the post; demonstrates thorough understanding, critical thinking and analysis of the concepts and context; builds a strong argument supported by examples from the text, class readings and also additional sources; defines and uses key terms, facts and concepts accurately; good grammar, spelling and style |
| 7-9 | Meets the technical requirements of the post; demonstrates that the student has read and understood the material; defines and uses key terms, facts and concepts accurately; analyses the context and the situation; brings some examples; good grammar and spelling |
| 4-6 | Meets the technical requirements of the post; demonstrates that the student has read and understood the material; somewhat reflects on the key ideas; does not contain major factual and conceptual mistakes; overall descent spelling or grammar with some minor errors |
| 1-3 | Almost meets the technical requirement; mostly retells the content demonstrating only that the student is somewhat familiar with the material; no analysis or reflection; grammar and spelling errors |
| 0 | Does not meet technical requirement at all; demonstrates poor mastery or understanding of the material ; contains conceptual, factual, grammatical., spelling and stylistic errors OR no content at all  **\*Technical requirement means the post must be 500-600 words long** |