



SCI 100 Climate Change Discussion Rubric
Theme: The Benefits of Scientific Study

Prompt: In this discussion spanning **Weeks 7 and 8** in **Theme: The Benefits of Scientific Study**, you will discuss the modern association between science and politics based on what you learned in learning block 7-4.

For your initial post in **Week 7**, consider each perspective. In America, what “side” of the climate change issue do you hear about most from politicians or the media? Do you think this could have an influence on the direction in which climate change research is headed? Why or why not? Consider what you have learned about the relationship between modern-day issues and the inherent value of the natural sciences.

In **Week 8**, you will be prompted to respond to two of your peers’ initial posts. When responding to your peer’s post, explain why you agree or disagree with their point of view. Thinking about what you have learned about our obligations as citizens, describe why it is important for citizens to be informed about the science behind this issue. Consider what information you would want to have if you were making a decision about this issue, and when not knowing enough might lead to a poor outcome.

Requirements for Discussion Board Assignments

Students are required to post one initial post in Week 7 and to follow up with at least two response posts in Week 8.

For your initial post (1), you must do the following:

- Compose a post of one to two paragraphs.
- In Week 7, complete the initial post by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. of your local time zone.
- Take into consideration material such as course content and other discussion boards from the current module and previous modules, when appropriate (*make sure you are using proper citation methods for your discipline when referencing scholarly or popular resources*).

For your response posts (2), you must do the following:

- Reply to at least two different classmates outside of your own initial post thread.
- In Week 8, complete the two response posts by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. of your local time zone.
- Demonstrate more depth and thought than simply stating that “I agree” or “You are wrong.” *Guidance is provided for you in each discussion prompt.*

Rubric

Critical Elements	Proficient (100%)	Needs Improvement (85%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Issue	Explains what “side” of the climate change issue he/she hears about most from politicians and the media	Explains what “side” of the climate change issue he/she hears about most from politicians and the media, but explanation is unclear	Does not explain what “side” of the climate change issue he/she hears about most from politicians and the media	20
Influence	Explains why this could or could not have an influence on the direction in which climate change research is headed	Explains why this could or could not have an influence on the direction in which climate change research is headed, but explanation is unclear	Does not explain why this could or could not have an influence on the direction in which climate change research is headed	20
Engagement	Provides relevant and meaningful response posts with clarifying explanation and detail	Provides relevant response posts with some explanation and detail	Provides response posts that are generic with little explanation or detail	40
Communicates Clearly	Clearly communicates key ideas and thoughts in a discussion post	Response needs clarification in order to support understanding of key ideas and thoughts	Key ideas or thoughts are not understandable	20
Total				100%