

**Oral Communication (Discussion) Rubric**  
(adapted by W. Atkins-Sayre, Fall 2007, from USM QEP Rubric)

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Course #: \_\_\_\_\_ Section #: \_\_\_\_\_ Assignment: \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria	D-F (Unacceptable)	C (Minimally Acceptable)	B (Proficient)	A (Advanced)	Score
<b>Content</b>	Central idea/purpose is not stated; content is erroneous or irrelevant; support for assertions is largely absent.	Central idea/purpose is stated; content is accurate but not always relevant; support is offered but inadequate for some assertions.	Central idea/purpose is clearly stated; content is accurate and relevant; credible support is provided for each assertion.	Central idea/purpose is vividly stated; content is accurate, thorough, and directly on point; strong support is provided for each assertion.	Score: ____ (out of 40)
<b>Organization</b>	Little or no structure present. Discussion is confusing to the audience; no logical sequence of ideas; frequently off topic.	Thoughts are unclear; may contain several statements out of place and occasionally deviate from topic.	Thoughts are clear with few statements out of place.	Thoughts are presented in a purposeful, interesting, and effective sequence and remains focused.	Score: ____ (out of 20)
<b>Language</b>	Grammar, pronunciation, and/or word choice are severely deficient.	Isolated errors in grammar, pronunciation, and/or word choice reduce clarity and credibility.	Speaking is free of serious errors in grammar, pronunciation, and/or word usage.	Speaking is free of errors in grammar and pronunciation; word choice aids clarity and vividness.	Score: ____ (out of 10)
<b>Adaptation to Audience and Context</b>	Content and/or style are frequently inappropriate to the audience and/or context. Speaker falls well outside set time parameters.	Content and/or style are occasionally inappropriate to the audience and/or context. Speaker falls slightly outside set time parameters.	Content and/or style are consistently appropriate to the audience, and/or context. Speaker meets set time parameters.	Content and/or style are consistently appropriate and targeted to audience and context. Speaker makes full, effective use of time and stays within time parameters.	Score: ____ (out of 10)
<b>Vocal Delivery</b>	Vocal delivery is too soft to hear, too fast to understand and/or long, unintended silences and speech disruptions (repetitions; filled pauses, e.g., "um") frequently distract audience	Vocal delivery is audible. Rate, volume, or speech disruptions only occasionally distract from audience comprehension.	Vocal delivery is clear and distinct. Rate, volume, and tone facilitate audience comprehension.	Vocal delivery is varied and dynamic. Speech rate, volume, and tone enhance listener interest and understanding.	Score: ____ (out of 10)
<b>Nonverbal Delivery</b>	Eye contact, posture, attire, gestures, movement, and/or facial expressions are inappropriate and significantly distracting.	Eye contact, posture, attire, gestures, movement, and facial expressions neither enhance nor hinder effectiveness significantly.	Some but not all of the following apply: Eye contact, posture, attire, gestures, movement or facial expressions enhance the presentation.	Most or all of the following apply: Eye contact, posture, attire, gestures, movement or facial expressions enhance the presentation.	Score: ____ (out of 10)
					Total score: ____ (out of 100)