

**ASSIGNMENT 1 PARTICIPATE**


Learning Goal ( <i>Graded Learning Activities</i> )	Points	
	WFSC422	WFSC632
<b>1. Participate</b> <i>Cumulative over entire semester; updated after each Part of the course; max 20 pts (46 ways to earn 20 points) Mix or match: chats (on-line or in-class), field-trip, problem-solving</i>	20	20
<b>DUE: first week of classes</b>	<b>% of total for course grade</b>	
	7%	5%

**Learning Goal**

Objective 1. Participate regularly in dialogue to clarify knowledge and strengthen communication skills

**Learning Activity**

Learning is usually a very social process, providing motivation, feedback and rewards. Since each person varies in their learning goals, styles and constraints, we try to provide flexibility for you to choose to participate in a manner that works best for you. In Week 1, use the elearning [assignments] tool to submit the A1 Participate assignment. The cumulative points you earn will be tallied on the “grade form” (view it in the elearning assignment tool), at the end of each of the four parts of the course. To pace yourself, a good target would be 5 points for each of the four parts of the course.

 <b>HUGO's TIP</b>	<p><i>You may over-achieve on participation during one part of the course and slack off during another part, depending on your time constraints and other responsibilities (juggling demands of health, family and the workplace)</i></p>
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**STEP 1.** Read the following options for earning participation points:



Throughout the semester, you may earn up to 20 points by mixing or matching the following options:

1. **Chat** about spotlight Q's & Inquiry activities (*up to 20 pts @ concept 1 pt; example 1 pt; scientific source 1 pt*)
  - each week, choose 1 spotlight Q from that unit, and/or 1 tab in the inquiry module for that week
  - post your ideas on the elearning discussion thread; prepare to chat no longer than 2-min (elevator speech)
  - names will be chosen randomly for chats during 10-min review at the beginning of each meeting
  - **if you are absent when your name is called, lose 3 pts**
  - if your name is not called, standby for review week scheduled at the end of each part of the course
  - earn points for helping practice critical thinking skills about how to communicate each concept, choose a relevant example and provide a scientific source for answers to “spotlight Q’s” and Inquiry activities
  - practice applying the 3 criteria that will be used to assess answers on the Final Exam and Inquiry projects
  - on-line: use the elearning chat tool (choose between Mon. or Wed., 8-9 pm)
  - in-class: chat during on-campus meetings in 104 Nagle (12:45-2 pm Tues: spotlight Q’s; Thurs: inquiry)
  
2. **Field trip** (*10 pts; lose 10 pts for an unexcused “no-show” for a reserved seat without a PS message*)
  - students from all sections are invited to participate in the optional weekend field trip
  - we will observe and video rutting behavior of red deer at Fossil Rim Wildlife Center
  - complete the M1 tab activity for Module 1 of the A3 Deer Inquiry assignment
  - sign up when you submit the A1 Participate assignment (see details attached to the A1)
  - to reserve a seat in the van from College Station, you must email your emergency contact info to the instructor (name, phone, relation of 1 person to be contacted in case of an accident during travel)
  
3. **Shared PS message** (*up to 12 pts; 3 PS @ 4 pts; no points awarded for personal PS*)
  - Shared PS messages are those that are directly related to upgrades of course materials and procedures, so the benefits are “shared” by all participants in the class.
  - Up to four points will be awarded for each shared PS message that is communicated in this format: **(a)** problem (1 pt), **(b)** good aspects (1 pt), **(c)** options (1 pt), **(d)** your preferred option (1 pt)

- Example Scenario for Personal PS (no participation points) Chris's car breaks down on the way to the bus for the field trip. Chris calls the instructor's cell phone and leaves a personal PS message, requesting an excused absence to avoid subtraction of 10 participation points.
- Example Scenario for Shared PS (eligible for participation points) Kim notices a broken link on the website and uses the elearning email to send a shared PS message to the instructor, explaining exactly where the broken link is located and her preferred option for fixing it. Kim receives 2 rather than 4 participation points, because the message only included 2 of the 4 elements of positive problem solving

**STEP 2.** Go to the elearning [Assignment] tool and open A1 Participate. In the assignment text box, answer this question:

"What is your plan for earning participation points (on-line chat, in-class chat, field- trip, PS-shared)?"

 <p>NEOMI's TIP</p>	<p>Decide what works best for your personal circumstances. For example,</p> <p><u>Scenario 1:</u> Pat is a distance ed student who has an opportunity to travel abroad during the first part of the course. Pat plans to earn participation points with this mix: on-line chats (12 pts), shared PS (8 pts).</p> <p><u>Scenario 2:</u> Lou likes hands-on activities, but does not want to practice communication skills on-line or in-class. Lou chooses to earn points with the following mix: field trip (10 pts), shared PS (10 pts).</p> <p><u>Scenario 3:</u> Kim falls ill during the third part of the course and is not able to participate from the hospital. Kim sends a personal PS message asking to substitute the Sealion Inquiry for 20 participation points.</p>
 <p>MIKE's TIP</p>	<p>Explain your "target" number of points for each option, for example:</p> <p>"on-line chat (12 pts) and PS-shared (8 pts) for a total of 20 pts"</p>

**STEP 3.** Save and submit the A1 assignment.

- [Save a draft] will save what you have written, but your instructor will not be able to read it. The assignment window will close. When you open it again your draft will still be there.
- [Submit] will send the assignment to your instructor for grading. You will not be able to re-open this assignment until your instructor has completed the grading process.

**STEP 4.** Watch for the graded assignment and read the feedback comments.

- You will earn 1 point for this first assignment. Updates on your participation points will appear by the end of each part of the course, until you have earned the maximum possible of 20 pts.
- You have the option of publishing the controls to each assignment, so others may view your work as an example.
- Use the tabs on the elearning [assignment] tool to view feedback comments, the grade form, and to publish your assignment to share with others in the spirit of collaborative learning.