

### Attendance and participation (15% of final grade):

Your A&P grade will be assigned an evaluative grade on the basis of punctual and consistent attendance, contributions to groupwork and discussion in class, and any other peripheral forms of participation such as e-mail correspondence or visits to office hours. Remember: participation is key to a successful seminar-style class!

Things to ponder: are these statements true of you?

- I listen to all seriously presented ideas carefully, even if I don't agree.
- I am willing to ask for clarification if something is unclear.
- I give someone credit for a good point, or if they have made me change my mind.
- I try to tie my contributions to points that have already been made.
- I refer to speakers by name when I can.
- I conclude my comment by summarising my main point or posing a clear question.
- I tie my contributions to class readings when appropriate.
- I don't interrupt others while they are speaking.
- I don't ignore the thread of discussion and say what I planned to say all along.
- I don't have private conversations or pass notes to my friends during group discussions.
- I don't text, or surf the web, or read unrelated material during class.
- I either respond to a specific person, or speak to everyone in the class, not just to the teacher, or my friend, or my book.
- I do not ramble or tell lengthy anecdotes with no obvious point.
- I am critical of ideas before people.
- I do not assume that one person can represent a whole group or school of thought (even if they think they can!).
- I am aware of my body language, tone of voice, facial expression, and eye contact as means of communication. I don't sigh, groan, or roll my eyes when I disagree with someone.
- If I am irritated about something I don't sulk. I try to think what constructive comment I could make, or how I could stand up for what I believe.
- I take seriously ideas that seem frighteningly or ludicrously radical, unfamiliar, or heretical OR that seem unduly conservative, parochial, or timid.
- I am participating in discussion to work out some unresolved political questions, not to demonstrate the futility of the readings, university, or life in general.
- I'm not obsessively and uncritically committed to a single slogan, method, or school of thought within political theory.
- I do not see conflict in the classroom as the end of the world. I don't rush to defend someone who has provoked legitimate criticism, nor do I freak out if someone criticises my ideas.
- I don't hold back from voicing my opinion because I feel that I am too advanced for the class OR because I feel that everyone else in the class knows more than me.
- I acknowledge that aspects of my own experience or perspective might shape my response to a particular argument in ways that are not yet fully clear to me.
- I recognise that other people have experience I do not share, and that they may not have told me about.
- I change my mind if there seems good reason to do so.