The discussion board (DB) in this class will be used primarily to develop a comprehensive study guide. Every week, a subset of students is responsible for answering questions on the DB in Blackboard by the assigned deadline. Each student from the subset is responsible for only one question (assigned by the instructor). The affected students will be notified via email.

All other students are not required to answer questions that week and should not make posts to those question threads at all until the assigned deadline passes for those students with required questions.

When the original assigned deadline passes, all questions for that week become available for everyone to earn bonus points. The deadline for posts to earn bonus points is 48 hours after the original assigned deadline. Unanswered questions are open for other students to "steal" and answered questions are open for others to try to improve upon if need be. These students earn bonus points but their posts do not impact the grades of the original posters. That is, it is not possible to hurt another student's grade by posting a "steal" or an improvement to an already answered question. The original poster is graded based upon his/her original post only.

The student who was originally required to answer the question cannot earn bonus points for his/her own question, but can earn bonus points for other questions that week.

Once the bonus deadline passes (48 hours after the original deadline), the week's threads are locked and graded. The instructor will post in every thread, highlighting correct answers, flagging incorrect or incomplete answers, and providing feedback designed to steer everyone back on the right track. Once the instructor feedback is complete, the thread is unlocked for use throughout the term.

The cycle begins anew every week on the previous week's original due deadline. There will be a new set of questions and a new subset of students responsible for them (assigned by the instructor and notified via email).