

RESEARCH PAPER GRADING RUBRIC

Does your paper answer your research question?

- A – The paper answers the question from several different aspects. The argument is developed in a thorough, systematic manner throughout the paper.
- B – The paper answers the question from a few or even a single aspect(s). The argument is a bit unsystematic in development.
- C – There is a general answer to the question. The argument is quite unsystematic in development.
- D – There is some type of argument or explanation which answers the question (even by implication or indirectly.) The argument is only barely developed.
- F – The question is not answered.

Does your paper use evidence to support your thesis?

- A – The paper uses a wealth of appropriate evidence to support your thesis. You have obviously used a wide range of sources and have pulled them together to produce a truly original piece of work even though most ideas come from an outside source.
- B – The paper uses much appropriate evidence. You have used a wide range of sources and have pulled them together to produce an interesting essay. There may be a bit too much reliance on one or two particular sources.
- C – There is a mixture of appropriate and inappropriate evidence. You have used a minimum of sources, and there may be heavy reliance on one or more sources.
- D – There is a minimal amount of evidence. The paper may have several extraneous or inappropriate examples. Different sources are used, but not in a critical manner or systematic manner.
- F – No evidence is used. No analysis demonstrated.

Is your paper well organized and clear?

- A – The paper is very well organized and easy to read. Each paragraph of the paper strengthens the whole and is connected to both the thesis and to the paragraph preceding and following.
- B – The paper is generally well organized; however, there may be some awkward transitions.
- C – The paper wanders a bit. Individual paragraphs may be well-organized, but the paper as a whole is a bit confusing.
- D – The paper is poorly organized both between paragraphs and within individual paragraphs.
- F – The paper does not meet length and content requirements.

Do you use citations and bibliography appropriately?

- A – Always use citations when appropriate, even for indirect references. Your bibliography is appropriate, thorough.
- B – Generally use citations when appropriate, even indirect references. Your bibliography is appropriate, thorough.
- C – Have difficulty determining when a citation is appropriate. Your bibliography is appropriate and thorough.
- D – Have considerable difficulty determining when citations are appropriate. Minimum citations not met. Your bibliography may/may not be appropriate or thorough.
- F – No citations used. No bibliography included.

Do you demonstrate mastery of Mechanics: sentence structure, word choice, mechanics/conventions?

- A – Uses occasional sentence error, uses a variety of phrases and sentence types. Uses active voice. Word choices are precise and vivid. Correct use of punctuation, spelling, and tense consistency.
- B – Avoids sentence fragments, run-ons, and comma splices, use of variety of phrases and sentence types, use of active voice. Word choices are precise; needless words omitted. Correct use of punctuation, spelling, and tense consistency.
- C – Some evidence of sentence fragments and run-ons. Limited variety of phrases and sentences types. Some examples of passive voice. Word choices generally clear. Some errors in punctuation, spelling, and tense.
- D – Numerous sentence errors. No variety of phrases or sentence types. Use of consistent passive voice. Word choice general and vague. Numerous errors in punctuation, spelling, and tense.
- F – No evidence of revising for sentence structure, word choice, and mechanics and conventions.

- All materials from checklist included and submitted by due date? All deadlines met?
- Time during class and for homework (Library & Labs) used effectively and appropriately?

❖ **Note: Your final grade is not the average of the above grades.**

FINAL GRADE: _____