

Student's Name:

Research Essay Grading Rubric

Reminder: Keep this rubric, along with the graded draft of this essay, for use later this semester.

_____ **C (70-79):** This essay contains a thesis statement and mostly maintains focus on it throughout; it supports the thesis with specific details; it contains no major logical inconsistencies or contradictions; it keeps general commentary for avoiding complicated issues to a minimum; it may include stylistic or mechanical errors, but not to the point that the essay is difficult to understand; it has a works cited page; it follows any MLA guidelines for in-text citation and works cited format discussed in class; and it is reasonably close to 1,500 words in length.

_____ **B (80-89):** This essay also addresses the issue thoughtfully or originally; it focuses conscientiously on developing an argumentative position with supporting details; it is cohesive from paragraph to paragraph; it mostly limits general commentary to its introduction and conclusion; it contains few (if any) confusing pronoun-antecedent shifts; and incidents of comma splice and other sentence structure issues are isolated (if at all).

_____ **A (90-100):** This essay also demonstrates at least one of the following attributes of superior writing: especially complex or original thought, especially sophisticated expression, excellent paragraph-to-paragraph transitions, especially compelling in purpose or recognizable in voice, especially thorough, seamlessly coherent, and relatively flawless in mechanics.

Essay Grade: _____ **+/- Points for special assignment requirements** _____ =

Final Grade

_____ **D or F**

If your essay does not meet the requirements for a C, you will earn a grade of D (60-69) or F (<60), depending on the severity of problems you have with one or more of the first standards, and you should schedule a conference with your teacher.

Note: See the assignment sheet for this essay for detailed information about special assignment requirements. Points deducted for special assignment requirements are detailed there, and any problems you have with these requirements have been noted with corresponding numbers on your written essay.

Comments: