

Final Exam Grading Rubric

Superior Essays (A+, A, A-)

- The essay is fluid, reasoned, and well supported. It shows depth, and uses pertinent quotations from multiple articles.
- The organization is fluid, and features smooth transitions. The writing is fresh and invites reading with varied sentence structure, strong voice and appropriate tone.
- There are no serious grammatical or mechanical problems.
- The word count does not fall under 750 words, and the writer has written just enough to fully argue their point.

Good Essays (B+, B, B-)

- The argument is reasoned, thoughtful and well supported. It shows the authors independent thought.
- The organization is easy to follow. The writing is fluent, clear and logical.
- There are only insignificant grammatical and mechanical errors.
- The word count does not fall under 750 words. The writer may have not written enough to fully argue their point or may have written too much.

Satisfactory Essays (C+, C, C-)

- The argument is adequate. Some reasoning may be lacking, but generally the essay leaves no major objections or challenges.
- The organization is adequate. Transitions may be slightly awkward, but the reader is able to follow the essay easily. The writing is clear.
- There are no serious grammatical or mechanical problems.
- The word count may fall slightly under 750 words, but the essay is still complete, and attempts to fully argue its main point.

Unsatisfactory Essays (D+, D, D-)

- The argument may be inadequately supported. The argument may be seriously lacking logic.
- The organization may be sketchy or inadequate, and the writing may detract from the essays argument.
- There may be errors in grammar and mechanics that obscure the meaning of the essay rather than clarify it.
- The essay may not be the assigned length, or may over quote source material.

Unacceptable Essays (F)

- There may be no discernible argument, or the argument may be severely logically flawed.
- The organization may be difficult or impossible to recognize. There may seem to be little to no structure to the essay.
- There may be serious grammatical and mechanical errors that prevent the reader from understanding or identifying the ideas in the essay.
- The essay may not be the assigned length or may be partly or wholly plagiarized.