

Using AI to Grade APA Style

Dr. Glori Hinck



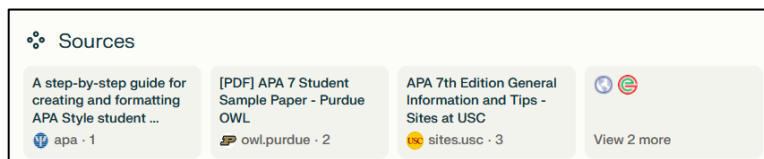
My Grading Pain-Point and [Solution]

- Grading APA Style in graduate papers
- Can AI assist?



The Prompt [Perplexity]

- Please suggest a prompt strategy to use for grading student papers, specifically APA format
- [Full Perplexity response](#)



Sample Sections from response:

• **In-Text Citations**

- Ensure all cited information is properly attributed
- Verify correct format for various citation types: One author: (Smith, 2020)
- Two authors: (Smith & Jones, 2020)
- Three or more authors: (Smith et al., 2020)
- Check for proper use of "et al." for sources with three or more authors

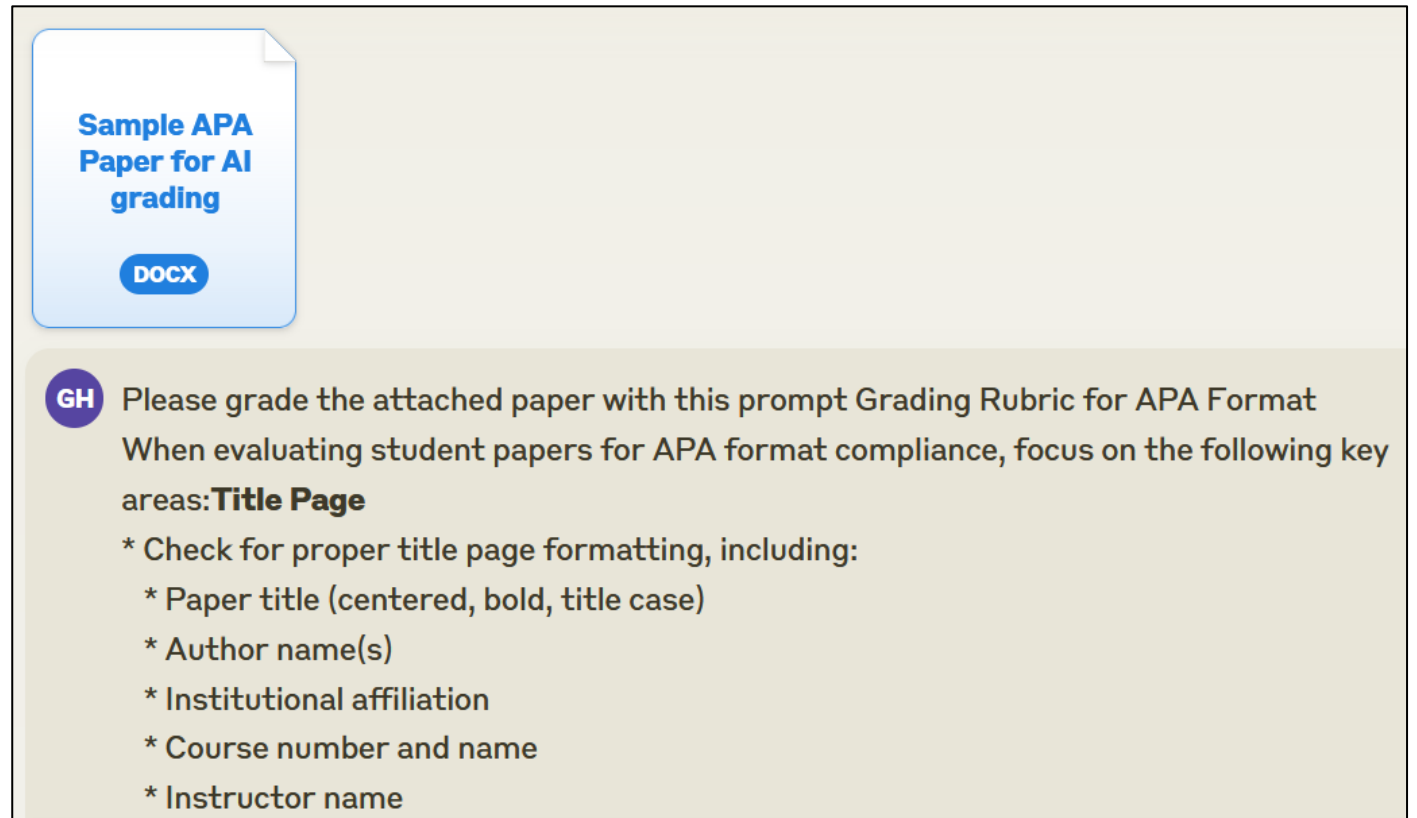
• **Reference List**

- Verify reference list starts on a new page
- Check that all in-text citations have corresponding reference entries
- Ensure references are in alphabetical order
- Verify proper formatting for different source types (e.g., journal articles, books, websites)
- Check for hanging indents on all entries

Testing the Prompt in Claude

[Please grade the attached paper with this prompt]

- Attached Sample Paper (student name redacted)
- Prompt:
 - Please grade the attached paper with this prompt
 - Pasted Grading Rubric for APA Format generated with Perplexity



Sample APA Paper for AI grading

DOCX

GH Please grade the attached paper with this prompt Grading Rubric for APA Format

When evaluating student papers for APA format compliance, focus on the following key areas: **Title Page**

- * Check for proper title page formatting, including:
 - * Paper title (centered, bold, title case)
 - * Author name(s)
 - * Institutional affiliation
 - * Course number and name
 - * Instructor name

Results:

Claude: I'll evaluate the paper based on APA format compliance, focusing on the key areas you've outlined. Here is my assessment.

Title Page:

- The title page is missing several required elements:
- Paper title is not centered, bold, or in title case
- Institutional affiliation is missing
- Course number and name are present but not properly formatted
- Instructor name is present but not properly formatted
- Due date is present but not properly formatted
- Page number is missing from the top right corner

General Formatting:

- Margins cannot be verified from the provided text
- Font type and size cannot be verified, but the text appears to be in a standard font
- Double-spacing is used throughout the document
- Page numbers are missing from all pages

Headings:

- Proper use of headings is inconsistent:
- The main title "Competency Set #1: Instructional Design Process Paper" is not formatted as a Level 1 heading
- No other clear headings are used throughout the paper

Apply a Grading Rubric to the Same Claude Discussion

[Apply this rubric to the results from the paper above]

APA style rubric

DOCX

GH

Apply this rubric to the results from the paper above

10 to > 9.0 pts	9 to > 7.0 pts	7 to > 0 pts
Exemplary	Proficiency	Needs Improvement to Meet Proficiency
No errors in APA style	Fewer than 5 errors in APA style	More than 5 errors in APA style

Based on the APA style rubric provided and my previous evaluation of the paper, I can apply the rubric as follows:

7 to > 0 pts - Needs Improvement to Meet Proficiency

The paper contains more than 5 errors in APA style. Here's a summary of the major APA style errors identified:

1. Incomplete title page (missing several required elements)
2. Missing page numbers throughout the document
3. Lack of proper APA headings
4. Missing page numbers for direct quote citations
5. Reference list not starting on a new page
6. Lack of hanging indents in the reference list
7. Inconsistent formatting in the reference list (e.g., italicization)
8. Missing DOIs or URLs in some reference entries

Given that there are at least 8 significant APA style errors (and likely more when considering individual reference formatting issues), the paper falls into the "Needs Improvement to Meet Proficiency" category according to the provided rubric.

To improve and potentially reach the "Proficiency" or "Exemplary" levels, the student would need to address these errors and ensure thorough compliance with APA style

Privacy and Security- Claude, Perplexity & BooodleBox

- [I would like to input sensitive data into Free Claude.ai or Claude Pro. Who can view my conversations?](#)
 - By default- prompts and conversations are not used to train Claude with the following exceptions:
 1. If use **thumbs up or thumbs down**
 2. You reach out with a request
 3. If flagged for trust and safety review
- [Perplexity Privacy Policy](#)
 - Last updated 12/22/24
- [BooodleBox Privacy Policy](#)

