

# Research paper rubric

Criteria	Beginning	Developing	Accomplished	Total
<b>Paper focus</b>	Topic introduced but no foundation laid. Limited or no discussion of the objectives to be achieved by the paper.	Topic introduced and some foundation laid. Some discussion of the objectives to be achieved by the paper.	The topic introduced and foundation clearly laid. Clear discussion of the objectives to be achieved by the paper.	/10
<b>Content</b>	Demonstrates a lack of understanding and inadequate analysis of the research topic. Analysis is superficial based on opinions and preferences rather than critical analysis. Does not meet length requirements.	Demonstrates a general understanding of the material, with limited critical analysis of the research topic. Meets length requirements.	Demonstrates a clear understanding of the material and has applied concepts learned in the course into the paper. Clarity/purpose is exhibited throughout the paper. Abundance of evidence of critical, careful thought and analysis and/or insight. Meets length requirements.	/30
<b>Evidence</b>	Lacks sufficient sources to support the research topic and/or, if included, are generally not relevant, accurate, or reliable. Contains numerous factual mistakes, omissions, or oversimplifications. Sources, if included, are not properly referenced and cited in the paper.	Provides some evidence to support the research topic with a few cited sources. Most sources are relevant, accurate, and reliable and are appropriately referenced and cited in the paper.	Provides essential, accurate evidence to support the research topic with multiple research sources that are relevant, accurate, and reliable. Sources are referenced and cited appropriately throughout the paper.	/20
<b>Quantitative</b>	Provides no quantitative example or equation to describe the research topic.	Includes some quantitative analysis, but does not fully explain the parameters and/or the result is inaccurate. If an order-of-magnitude calculation, does not sufficiently explain the assumptions made in the calculation and/or the limitations on the result.	Includes some quantitative analysis that is fully explained with accurate results. If an order-of-magnitude calculation, describes the assumptions made in the calculation and the limitations on the result.	/20
<b>Clarity</b>	Writing is unclear and difficult to read and understand what the author is trying to express. Writing is confusing with incomplete sentences. Many grammar and/or spelling mistakes. Provides limited or no summary of the main points of the paper.	Writing is generally clear, but unnecessary words are used occasionally. Meaning is sometimes obscure due to incomplete or long sentences and complex ideas. Some grammar and/or spelling mistakes. Summary of the main points of the paper is not fully developed.	Writing is clear and concise. The writer supports ideas with examples. Meaning is clear. No grammar and/or spelling mistakes. Summary of the main points of the paper is fully developed and clear.	/20

