

Critical Skills Essay Assignment

The essay assignment is worth 30% of the marks for the course. It will be assessed using the rubric “Grading Criteria for Papers” (see below).

The essay should be focused on a topic relevant to finance, accounting, or economics; students are welcome to write from a historical or theoretical perspective.

Basic requirements:

- 1000 word length
- Harvard referencing style
- At least three academic sources
- Draft submitted via Turnitin for peer feedback
- Final draft submitted via Turnitin

This is a multi-stage assignment:

Stage 1 Week 6	Thesis statement workshop. In-class peer feedback on thesis statements.
Stage 2 Draft submitted end of week 7—November 16. Peer feedback submitted end of week 8 via Peer mark	Draft and peer feedback. Instructor and peer feedback on draft. Students will use ‘Peer Mark’ on Turnitin to provide peer feedback. Instructors will provide an oral note on Turnitin.
Stage 3 Final submission due end of week 10—December 7.	Final draft Submit your final draft to Turnitin.

Peer-feedback

Turnitin will pair you with a student in the class for peer feedback. This must be completed by November 23. Failure to provide meaningful peer feedback will result in a -10% penalty to the mark of your final submission.

After you receive feedback

In addition to peer feedback you will receive feedback from your instructor on Turnitin. Failure to act on the feedback you receive from the instructor will negatively impact your mark.

Grading Criteria for Papers

Argument and Analysis
Significance of the topic is clear; academic context is clear; paper sustains the argument; required page length is met; the final draft incorporates applicable feedback received from the instructor and peers.
Organization
Thesis statement and supporting examples and ideas are presented clearly; the argument of the paper unfolds logically; sufficient examples to support the argument; paragraphs develop the argument coherently and use transition sentences to unify the paper.
Sources
Required number of sources used; sources provide relevant evidence in support of the paper's argument; analysis and engagement with <i>academic sources</i> is demonstrated.
Style and mechanics
Paper is devoid of grammatical errors; economy of language; properly formatted scholarly apparatus.