

GRADING STANDARDS

The following is a compilation of the criteria used to evaluate your paper:

Organization (worth 25% of paper grade)

("2"= Satisfactory; "1"= Not Satisfactory)

The introduction contains a clear statement of the thesis.	-
The introduction contains a general outline of the structure of the paper.	-
The body contains an explanation of the argument/position the paper is supporting.	-
The body presents possible objections to the student's argument/position.	-
The body contains replies to the above objections.	-
The conclusion provides a summary of the content of the body.	-
The paper has a coherent structure and follows a clear train of thought.	-
The author uses separate paragraphs to present different thoughts/arguments.	-
The structure of the paper matches the outline presented in the introduction.	-

Sub-total: - / 18

Content (worth 50%)

("5"= Excellent; "4"= Good; "3"= Adequate; "2"= Poor; "1"= Very poor)

The student conveys a masterful grasp of the text through accurate paraphrasing or explanation of quoted material.	-
Key philosophical terms are explained with appropriate depth and precision.	-
The student's arguments are sufficiently explained and supported.	-
The student presents relatively strong and relevant objections to his/her argument.	-
The student provides persuasive replies to the above objections.	-
There are no obvious or clearly strong objections to the student's argument that the student fails to address.	-
The student has a consistent position and does not contradict him/herself.	-
The student presents an original argument, perspective and/or objection or otherwise demonstrates an exceptional, in-depth, and rigorous critical engagement with the topic.	-

Sub-total: - / 40

Clarity (worth 25%)

("3"=Good; "2"=Adequate; "1"=Inadequate)

The structure of the paper is made clear through the effective use of paragraphs and transitional phrases.	-
The student does not use unnecessarily complicated words or phrases that obscure the content of the arguments.	-
The arguments are explained thoroughly yet concisely. No key parts remain vague.	-
The introduction and conclusion do not contain unnecessary flourishes or florid rhetoric.	-
The student does not commit errors in grammar or spelling that make the paper difficult to understand.	-

Sub-total: - / 15

Grade Calculation					
	(Raw Points Earned	/	Raw Points Possible)	x	Weighted % of Final Paper Grade
Organization	(-	/	18)	x	25
Content	(-	/	40)	x	50
Clarity	(-	/	15)	x	25
Total %					= -

Translation Key:

93 – 100% = A
 90 – 92% = A-
 87 – 89% = B+
 83 – 86% = B
 80 – 82% = B-
 77 – 79% = C+
 73 – 76% = C
 70 – 72% = C-
 69% or less = Schedule an appointment with your TA