**Research Paper Grading Rubric**

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| **Student:** | | |  |
| **Criteria** | **Points Possible** | **Points**  **Earned** | **Instructor’s Comments** |
| **Content/Development** | | | |
| All key elements of the assignment are covered in a substantive way. | 125 |  |  |
| Content is comprehensive, accurate, and/or persuasive. |
| Major points are stated clearly and are supported by professional literature or logic. |
| Meaningful use of source material and analytical reasoning to elaborate upon the topic or theme. |
| Research is adequate and timely for the topic. |
| The context and purpose of the writing are clear. |
| **Organization** | | | |
| The introduction provides sufficient background on the topic and previews major points. | 25 |  |  |
| Ideas flow in a logical sequence. |
| The structure of the paper is clear and easy to follow. |
| The paper’s organization emphasizes the central theme or purpose. |
| Paragraph transitions are present, logical, and direct the flow of thought throughout the paper. |
| The conclusion logically derives from the paper’s ideas. |
| The conclusion reviews the major points for the appropriate audience. |
| **Format** | | | |
| The paper includes a title page, an abstract, 8–10 full pages of content, and a references page | 50 |  |  |
| The references page contains at least 5 scholarly sources. |
| The paper follows current APA format guidelines. |
| The paper is written in 12-pt. Times New Roman font, is double-spaced, and has 1” margins. |
| The work is original, giving credit to all borrowed ideas. |
| **Grammar/Punctuation/Spelling** | | | |
| Rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed. | 25 |  |  |
| Spelling is correct. |
| **Readability/Style** | | | |
| Sentences are complete, clear, and concise. | 25 |  |  |
| Sentences are well constructed with consistently strong and varied structure. |
| Sentence transitions are present and direct the flow of thought. |
| Words used are precise and unambiguous. |
| **Total** | **250** |  |  |