**Department of English**

**(as attached to the Academic Learning Compact)**

**RUBRIC FOR HOLISTIC ASSESSMENT OF ESSAYS**

**SUPERIOR**

Addresses the question or prompt fully

Demonstrates substantial comprehension of relevant material

Shows substantial depth, complexity, and creativity of thought

Demonstrates clear and coherent organization

Develops arguments fully with ample supporting detail

Demonstrates superior control of diction, syntactic variety, and transitions

**STRONG**

Address the question or prompt substantively, yet not fully

Demonstrates comprehension of relevant material

Shows depth, complexity, and creativity of thought

Demonstrates clear organization

Develops arguments with supporting detail

Demonstrates control of diction, syntactic variety, and transition

**COMPETENT**

Adequately addresses the question or prompt

Demonstrates adequate understanding of relevant material

Shows clarity of thought but may treat the topic simplistically or repetitively

Demonstrates adequate organization

Develops arguments adequately, with some detail

Demonstrates adequate facility with syntax, mechanics, and usage but contains some errors

**INADEQUATE**

May distort or neglect parts of the question or prompt, and/or

Fails to comprehend relevant material

Lacks clarity of thought; demonstrates confused/simplistic thinking, and/or

Lacks adequate organization, and/or

Fails to provide adequate or appropriate details to support generalizations, or may provide details without

generalization, and/or

Demonstrates significant errors in language, syntax, or mechanics