**MIS581: Self-Evaluation Form**

**Name:** Lucas Rutledge

**Title/Topic of Speech:** Identifying Discrimination and Delays in the Lending Decision Process

**Please answer the following questions in detail (*meaning a minimum of two complete sentences per question*). Feel free to type your answers after the questions below. Your completed self-evaluation should be uploaded to the Week 1 Capstone Milestone page for the self-introduction speech and to the Week 8 Capstone Project page for the final assignment.**

How well did you believe that you explained and supported your ideas?

I believe that I was able to support my ideas soundly by providing two research questions to approach the topic at hand. My topic of interest was decision making in lending, and I was able to explore this in two different ways. Also, I believe I was able to provide a thorough explanation of the subject manner and supporting pieces as well.

Did you state your purpose and speaking topic?

I did, I was able to expand on my introduction to directly call out the purpose of the speech. This was improved on from my introduction speech in Module 1, which failed to properly introduce the subject matter. That review taught me improved methods of presenting.

Did you state your thesis?

I did state a thesis through the two questions I generated in my research. This was something I did not see a need to include in the last presentation but was important to detail in this final module.

How effective was your introduction?

I believe this introduction was vastly improved upon from my last one and was a lot more effective in setting up the rest of my talking points. I utilized the first minute to ease the subject matter in, rather than leaving it to be discovered for the first time over the course of the speech. This I believe allows for a listener to be prepared and curious for the points to be detailed.

Did you preview your main points?

Yes, after the subject and thesis, I went through the different stages of research and how I was going to order them. This felt very similar to the introduction of a written paper which makes good sense to connect the two.

How effectively did you use transitions?

There were some points that I believed had natural transitions to them. However, when I felt there needed to be some assistance in moving the pace along, I created explicit transitions in the speech. This I believe allowed for a more seamless flow through the speech.

Did you provide adequate nonverbal support?

I removed some of the hand gestures I had used previously as I felt they were a distraction in video format more than they were an aid. One area I believe I could improve on is focusing on more direct camera eye contact. With a larger script and more talking points, I caught myself reading more than having eyes on the camera which can result in attention being drawn away.

Did you use visual aids?

Yes. I included the slides the presentation was based on, and moved along them as I transitioned through each point. This I felt gave more context to both my findings and the slides to have them overlay with each other. As well, I included several visuals of the data and used highlighting circles to assist and following along.

Did you cue for closure?

Yes. I decided to make my conclusion before the recommendations as it made more sense to conclude the findings before moving on to potential actions. During this, I cut any visual aids out of the picture, and clearly restate previous points.

Did you restate your thesis and main points?

I did. Both the thesis and main points were restated for reflection. I also was able to add to those main points having then gone over the results to tie in the connection for the viewer.

Looking over your Microsoft Office Presenter Coach report, what were your areas of strength? What areas do you need to work on? How do you plan to address these areas?

The Microsoft presenter coach found that my word choice, lack of filler, and pacing were all good. This helps by lessening distractions of repetitive statements and unnecessary verbiage. Pacing is also important for audience retention and ensuring there is no lack of understanding. The one area that the presenter coach found weak is similar to my previous speech, and that is lack of vocal inflection, and a bit of a quiet tone. This can lead to less engagement over time as there is less draw to the listeners ear. I will continue to work on this in future assignments.

What is the link to your Youtube video?

<https://youtu.be/c3J2ZWzAxWM>