

Rubric for Reading Responses

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Criteria	Ratings							Pts	
Critical analysis and insight	30.0 pts A+ Outstanding level of insight and critical analysis.	27.0 pts A Substantial evidence of student's own insight and critical analysis.	22.0 pts B Insights and arguments are generally original.	19.0 pts C Some evidence of independent insight but mostly relies on arguments covered in class and in readings.	15.0 pts D Mostly derivative with some original elements.	12.0 pts marginal F The work does not go beyond the materials covered in class and in readings, though some attempts have been made to do so.	6.0 pts clear F The work does not show any evidence of the student attempting to go beyond the materials covered in class and in readings.	30.0 pts	
Summary sentence	10.0 pts A+ Outstanding summary of (arguably) the main point of the reading.	9.0 pts A Concise and clear summary of (arguably) the main point of the reading.	7.5 pts B Good summary of a key point in the reading.	6.5 pts C Summary is mostly appropriate, but is somewhat too long/short / unclear / focuses on a less relevant point.	5.0 pts D Summary is problematic: far too long / short; very unclear; misses the point.	4.0 pts marginal F A summary is attempted, but it is inadequate, and fails to capture any of the key points in the reading due to serious issues with form / content.	2.0 pts clear F No summary is attempted.	10.0 pts	
Understanding and background	10.0 pts A+ Provides evidence of an exceptionally thorough understanding of the topic at hand.	9.0 pts A Provides evidence of a thorough understanding of the topic at hand.	7.5 pts B Demonstrates a good degree of familiarity with the topic at hand.	6.5 pts C Demonstrates acquaintance with the topic at hand.	5.0 pts D Only a small amount of evidence of the student's familiarity with the topic at hand.	4.0 pts marginal F Not enough evidence of acquaintance with the relevant background materials.	2.0 pts clear F No evidence of acquaintance with the relevant background materials.	10.0 pts	
Additional sources	10.0 pts A+ A highly relevant additional source is brought in and incorporated into the essay exceptionally well.	9.0 pts A A highly relevant additional source is brought in and successfully incorporated into the essay.	7.5 pts B A relevant additional source is cited and incorporated into the essay.	6.5 pts C An additional source is brought in, though its relevance is somewhat unclear / it stands apart from the rest of the essay.	5.0 pts D An additional source is brought in, but its relevance is unclear / it stands completely apart from the rest of the essay.	4.0 pts marginal F The additional source is of no relevance to the essay / it is completely misrepresented.	2.0 pts clear F No additional source is cited.	10.0 pts	
Argumentation	10.0 pts A+ Provides exceptionally clear and well-formed arguments that are highly relevant to the topic at hand.	9.0 pts A Provides clear and well-formed arguments that are relevant to the topic at hand.	7.5 pts B Provides well-formed and relevant arguments.	6.5 pts C Provides arguments, but their relevance is somewhat unclear / they are not very clearly articulated / are somewhat unconvincing.	5.0 pts D Provides arguments whose relevance is unclear / are not clearly articulated / are logically flawed.	4.0 pts marginal F Arguments provided are unclear / mostly irrelevant / suffer from serious flaws.	2.0 pts clear F No independent argumentation is attempted.	10.0 pts	
Structure	10.0 pts A+ Exceptionally well structured with a crystal clear line of reasoning throughout.	9.0 pts A Very well structured with a clear line of reasoning throughout.	7.5 pts B Generally well-organised.	6.5 pts C Room for improvement in structure / line of reasoning is somewhat muddled.	5.0 pts D Difficult to follow due to structural issues / failure to articulate the main line of reasoning.	4.0 pts marginal F The work is disorganised with little or no apparent structure.	2.0 pts clear F The work is jarringly disorganised.	10.0 pts	
Presentational conventions	10.0 pts A+ Proficient use of presentational conventions such as referencing, citations and style.	9.0 pts A Appropriate and competent use of presentational conventions such as referencing, citations and style.	7.5 pts B Largely competent use of presentational conventions such as referencing, citations and style.	6.5 pts C Some errors in use of presentational conventions such as referencing, citations and style.	5.0 pts D Significant errors in use of presentational conventions such as referencing, citations and style.	4.0 pts marginal F Not sufficient evidence of awareness of presentational conventions.	2.0 pts clear F No evidence of awareness of presentational conventions.	10.0 pts	
Written expression	10.0 pts A+ Exceptionally well-written. Articulates complex ideas with clarity.	9.0 pts A Very well-written. Articulates complex ideas with clarity.	7.5 pts B Well-written with a generally readable style.	6.5 pts C Room for improvement in writing, with unwieldy expression and apparent confusion.	5.0 pts D Author is mostly unable to convey their meaning clearly.	4.0 pts marginal F Generally muddled expression and inability to convey understanding of the material under discussion.	2.0 pts clear F Highly muddled expression and complete inability to convey understanding of the material under discussion.	10.0 pts	
Total Points: 100.0									