



## Evaluation Criteria

Grade	Research	Argument (Intro/Conclusion)	Analysis (Body of Paper)	Clarity	Format
<b>A</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a significant amount of independent, scholarly research was undertaken</li> <li>the majority of sources are from peer-reviewed publications, those that aren't are used as primary research only.</li> <li>research is solidly within the parameters of the analysis and thesis argument</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an original and provocative thesis is clearly stated at the beginning of the paper</li> <li>the method of proving that thesis is established early on and justified on scholarly terms</li> <li>the thesis provides the backbone of analysis and reaches a satisfying conclusion based on what was proposed at the beginning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>based on excellent research and an original thesis, the analysis is strong, and clearly follows established research questions</li> <li>the research is artfully woven throughout the analysis, shoring up and thoughtfully supporting the argument</li> <li>new information is well contextualized and serves to propel the argument towards a satisfying conclusion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the paper is easy to read, analysis flows expertly</li> <li>language is sophisticated without being jargonistic</li> <li>terms of analysis and argumentation are clearly laid out and well-defined</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Times New Roman 12pt, double spaced, 1-inch margins, page numbers</li> <li>a cover page provides pertinent information</li> <li>the bibliography follows a recognized scholarly style</li> <li>citations are thorough and well documented throughout the paper</li> </ul>
<b>B</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a reasonable amount of independent, scholarly research was undertaken</li> <li>sources are mainly from peer-reviewed publications</li> <li>research is sound but predictable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an interesting but predictable thesis is clearly stated at the beginning of the paper</li> <li>the thesis tends toward more description than argument, leading to a weak conclusion</li> <li>the methodology is there but isn't clearly laid out, or is laid out but not followed through on an expert level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the analysis is good but there are some significant weaknesses or lapses</li> <li>the paper occasionally drifts off-topic or into territory that isn't adequately supported by the research</li> <li>the research questions are interesting but potentially unrealistic in terms of the type and/or level of research undertaken</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the paper is well written but suffers from some significant grammatical inconsistencies or spelling errors</li> <li>language is clear but lacks scholarly depth</li> <li>there are some lapses in definition and explication of terms</li> <li>segue between points in the analysis are weak</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the paper basically follows the technical requirements, with a few minor exceptions</li> <li>citations are solid but not thorough, with some noticeable omissions</li> </ul>
<b>C</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the minimum amount of independent, scholarly research was undertaken</li> <li>sources also rely on non-scholarly publications</li> <li>research is weak and unoriginal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the thesis is fundamentally descriptive or dependent on a value judgment (good/bad, right/wrong)</li> <li>the method is vague or poorly laid out</li> <li>the argument fails to reach a satisfying conclusion, with the paper simply petering out</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>analysis is uninteresting or uninspired, tending toward description</li> <li>research questions are poorly laid out and inadequately explored</li> <li>the research does not adequately support the analysis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>there are significant but not quite major problems in grammar and spelling</li> <li>language is unclear and/or shallow</li> <li>terms are not well defined and analysis leaps erratically from point to point</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>there are some significant problems with the technical requirements of the paper that affect the strength of its analysis</li> <li>citations are weak and/or the bibliography is incomplete</li> </ul>