

Grading Rubric for Short Papers CONS 3100

CATEGORY	4 points	3 points	2 points	0-1 points
Research Quality	There is one clear, well-focused topic. Main idea stands out and is supported by 5 or more strong support points	Main idea is clear but the supporting information is general and only includes 3-4 points	Main idea is somewhat clear but there are only 1-2 support points included.	The main idea is not clear. There is a seemingly random collection of information.
Writing	The writing is uniformly correct and clear.	The writing is mostly correct and clear, with no more than two mistakes.	The writing includes several mistakes in grammar, syntax, or spelling; OR the writing is unclear.	The writing is not acceptable at the undergraduate level.
Sources (Content)	Sources represent the best information available and are all listed and cited in the prescribed style. All supportive facts are reported accurately	Sources represent the best information available but are not all listed or cited in the prescribed style. Almost all supportive facts are reported accurately.	Sources are dated or inappropriate to undergraduate studies. Most supportive facts are reported accurately.	Sources are obsolete, not authoritative, or are otherwise gravely lacking. (This includes any use of unprofessional online materials.) NO facts are reported OR most are inaccurately reported
Conclusion (Organization)	The conclusion is strong and leaves the reader with a feeling that they understand what the writer is "getting at"	The conclusion is recognizable and ties up almost all the loose ends.	The conclusion is recognizable, but does not tie up several loose ends.	There is no clear conclusion, the paper just ends.
Recognition of Reader (Voice)	The reader's questions are anticipated and answered thoroughly and completely.	The reader's questions are anticipated and answered to some extent.	The reader is left with one or two questions. More information is needed to "fill in the blanks".	The reader is left with several questions.