

CSUB HISTORY DEPARTMENT ASSESSMENT RUBRIC

Assessment	Thesis	Evidence	Argument & Analysis	Expression [organization, grammar & syntax]	Form & Style
Exceptional (A)	-Clear, strong, well-defined, FOCUSED thesis in intro	-ACCURATE INFERENCES drawn from primary and secondary sources -Excellent use of all types of material, e.g., monographs, scholarly articles, etc. -Accurate use of wide range of PRIMARY AND SECONDARY sources -Citations from a variety of sources -Well-chosen examples -Fully appreciates, understands and recognizes background for bias of sources used -Adequate citations to allow reader to form critical opinion of range and use of sources	-Effective introduction -Argument convincingly and adequately supports thesis -Takes account of interpretations that diverge from one's own thesis -Uses other historians' work appropriately to frame argument -Clear, strong conclusion summarizing arguments -Causal connections clear -Insightful and original ideas -Excellent command of topic and its historical context -Convincing analysis	-Excellent organization -Skillful and sophisticated use of language -Few or no spelling mistakes, punctuation errors, and grammatical problems -Chooses words aptly to express exact meaning -Smooth transitions b/w WELL CONSTRUCTED AND CAREFULLY ORGANIZED paragraphs and ideas	-Properly formatted -Adheres to appropriate rules of citation in footnotes and bibliography
Thorough (B)	-Clear sound thesis -Consistent presentation of thesis	-Appropriate AND ACCURATE evidence -Good use of all types of PRIMARY AND SECONDARY material -Appreciates, understands, and recognizes background for bias of sources used -Few minor problems with examples and citation	-Few minor problems with argument and causal connections -Good sense of ideas -One or two minor factual or conceptual problems -Good command of topic and its historical context	-Good ORGANIZATION -Reads well but few minor grammatical or stylistic problems -Few problems with sentence constructions, word choice, transitions, punctuation	-Good presentation -One or two minor problems with formatting, citation, footnotes, or bibliography
Adequate (C)	-FAIR thesis	-Limited use of PRIMARY AND SECONDARY sources/evidence -SOME problems with accuracy, citation, selection of examples	-Partial development -Some problems with argument -Fair introduction and/or conclusion -Fair analysis -FAIR COMMAND OF TOPIC AND ITS HISTORICAL CONTEXT -Some unsupported or undeveloped generalizations and ideas	-Some problems with organization and arrangement -Some grammatical and stylistic problems with transitions, sentence structure, word choice	-Fair presentation -More frequent problems with formatting, citation, footnotes, or bibliography
Inadequate (D)	-WEAK, vague or peripheral thesis	-Insufficient use of PRIMARY AND SECONDARY sources and evidence	-Illogical arrangement of ideas -Frequently narrates or summarizes -Simplistic -TANGENTIAL COMMAND OF TOPIC AND ITS HISTORICAL CONTEXT	-WEAK ORGANIZATION -Major grammatical or typographical errors which distract from argument -Frequently uses inexact words, clichés, colloquialism	-Major problems with formatting, citation, footnotes, or bibliography
Unacceptable (F)	-No thesis	-Fails to cite sources or plagiarizes -Inaccurate information	-Little or no development of any kind of argument -No or little analysis -Failure to understand or undertake assignment	-LITTLE OR NO ORGANIZATION -Numerous and serious grammatical and typographical errors which result in incoherence	-Numerous and serious problems with formatting, citation, footnotes or bibliography