

Final Paper Rubric

	Does not meet expectations	Almost meets expectations	Meets expectations	Exceeds Expectations
Comprehension and clarity of course material	Is confused or inaccurate about one or more of the theories.	Demonstrates effort in engaging with both theories. May be a little confused or inaccurate about some ideas.	Demonstrates thoughtful engagement with both theories. Takes the time to demonstrate clarity and comprehension of key concepts. Has chosen theories and concepts which are relevant to the chosen social issue. Applies the concepts and theories to the social issue in an interesting way.	Demonstrates thoughtful and rigorous engagement with both theories, maintaining precision with the theorist's arguments and key concepts. Takes the time to demonstrate clarity and comprehension of key concepts. Has chosen theories and concepts which are relevant to the chosen social issue. Insightfully applies concepts to analyze the social issue at hand.
Thesis Statement	The student provides a vague or unspecific statement about the paper topic.	There is an introductory paragraph that includes a statement about a defined paper topic, but is not a thesis statement. There is probably no "road map" for the rest of the paper.	A thoughtful statement at the beginning of the paper, although it may not be precisely an "arguable" statement. The statement includes a road map for the rest of the paper (should be 2-4 sentences).	A compelling, arguable, beautifully written thesis statement that includes a road map for the rest of the paper (should be 2-4 sentences).

Organization and writing style of paper	The paper probably reads as a rough draft.	The paper could use more work in organizing and presenting of material. Quotes may not be sufficiently analyzed, but in general the student shows good effort.	The paper has <i>most</i> of the components for “exceeds expectations.” Most quotes are sufficiently analyzed. The paper has a good introduction and conclusion.	The paper is thoughtfully organized, material presented in a logically and clear manner. All quotes are thoroughly analyzed. The paper includes a compelling introduction and a thoughtful conclusion.
Basic paper requirements (spelling, grammar, page length, citations, title, etc)	Basic paper requirements are not met.	Spelling and grammar can use some work, but most other components are there.	The same as “exceeds expectations.”	8 pages, double-spaced, regular-sized font. Citations can be directly from reader. Other citations needed only if outside resources are brought in. Spelling- and – grammar-checked. A title is a must!
Improvements from Rough Draft	Student has not incorporated feedback provided by their TA.	Student responds to some, but not most, of the feedback provided by their TA.	Final draft improves on rough draft in most, though not all, of the places where TA has designated are important.	Final draft improves on rough draft in places where TA has designated are important. Final draft is qualitatively different and improved.

