

## Rubric – DBU MA in Leadership Final Papers

|  | <b>Excellent</b>  | <b>Good</b>   | <b>Fair</b>   | <b>Poor</b>   | <b>Points Awarded</b> | <b>Notes</b> |
|--|---|---|---|---|-----------------------|--------------|
| <b>Responding to the Assignment (10 pts)</b> | Excels in responding to assignment. Thesis Statement is interesting, well-developed, clearly communicated, and aligns with the syllabus prompt. (9-10 points)   | Solid paper which includes a thesis which aligns with the prompt, but one which is not as well-defined, complex, or clearly communicated (7-8 pts)  | The paper responds to the assigned prompt, but not in a meaningful, clearly-defined way (5-6 pts)   | Does not have a central thesis statement or idea which responds to the assigned prompt (0-4 pts)                          |                       |              |
| <b>Analysis &amp; Persuasion (35 pts)</b>    | Excels in analyzing the topic and providing a persuasive argument that flows throughout the paper. Every section of the paper meaningfully builds on the thesis and provides a persuasive argument. Author draws original, thoughtful conclusions and integrates content from the course well (32-35 pts) | Demonstrates acceptable critical analysis of the topic but does not provide meaningful persuasive arguments throughout the paper. May only develop original, thoughtful conclusions in a tangential way (26-31 pts) | Demonstrates general understanding of the topic but with little critical analysis. Summarizes others' perspectives but does not make original conclusions (18-25 pts) | Critical analysis is superficial or lacking. Inadequate handling of the topic and little persuasion, if at all (0-17 pts) |                       |              |
| <b>Evidence &amp; Sources (15 pts)</b>       | Provides compelling and accurate evidence to support the central thesis. Sources are high quality, with a ratio of .75 to 1 sources per page (13-15 pts)  | Provides evidence to support the thesis, but the quantity and quality of sources is not as strong. Ratio between .5 to .74 sources per page (10-12 pts)   | Provides only limited evidence that may not be of high quality. Ratio between .25 to .49 sources per page (7-9 pts)   | Provides little to no evidence of any quality. Ratio of sources per page is less than .24 (0-6 pts)                       |                       |              |
| <b>Organization &amp; Coherence (15 pts)</b> | Excellent organization with a logical flow and strong progression of ideas (13-15 pts)  | Paper is adequately organized, but the flow and progression is not as strong (10-12 pts)  | Paper is somewhat organized but lacks tight cohesion and flow (7-9 pts)   | Paper is disorganized and lacks coherence (0-6 pts)   |                       |              |
| <b>Writing Quality (25 pts)</b>              | Excellent sentence structure, grammar, spelling, APA citations, and use of headings with only minor errors. Author uses effective writing techniques which keep the reader interested (21-25 pts)   | Overall quality sentence structure, grammar, spelling, APA citations, and use of headings with some errors that do not markedly detract from the writing quality (17-20 pts)  | Writing quality is fair, but paper may include errors that detract from the quality of the paper in some marked ways (11-16 pts)                                      | Significant errors and lapses in writing significantly detract from the paper (0-10 pts)                                  |                       |              |
| <b>Adherence to Guidelines</b>               | Paper adheres to length requirements and was turned in on time (No Deduction in Points)   | Paper is less than 15% under minimum page requirement and/or was late by 1-2 days without a valid excused reason (8-10 point deduction)   | Paper is 16-40% below page requirement and/or is 3-7 days late without a valid excused reason (20-30 point deduction)   | Paper is 40+% below page requirement and/or was late by more than 8 days (31-60 point deduction)                          |                       |              |
|  |   |   |   | <b>Final Grade:</b>   |                       |              |

