

English 112 -- Final Research Paper  
Grading Rubric

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Compelling title: (1) \_\_\_\_\_

First paragraph and thesis statement

Clearly presents the “controversial issue” that concerns race, gender, or education: (4) \_\_\_\_\_

The topic is specific and focused enough for a 10-page paper: (4) \_\_\_\_\_

There is a *proposal argument*, which conforms to the requirements of a thesis: (6) \_\_\_\_\_

The thesis has “tension” (answers the reader’s “so what?” question; reveals what’s “at stake”): (4) \_\_\_\_\_

Body

Adequate body “paragraphing” (ie: paragraphs that are too long or short): (3) \_\_\_\_\_

Each body paragraph focuses on a specific idea: (3) \_\_\_\_\_

Arguments in support of thesis are presented and discussed: (4) \_\_\_\_\_

Arguments against thesis are presented and discussed/refuted: (4) \_\_\_\_\_

Transition sentences

Sentences linking paragraphs are strong: (2) \_\_\_\_\_

Conclusion

The argument that has been proven is the same as initial argument: (5) \_\_\_\_\_

The argument has developed and gained complexity: (3) \_\_\_\_\_

The conclusion is of adequate length: (3) \_\_\_\_\_

The conclusion is convincing: (5) \_\_\_\_\_

Textual evidence and analysis

The paper focuses on a specific, defined community: (3) \_\_\_\_\_

The analysis is even-handed and relies on reasons and evidence to support thesis: (7) \_\_\_\_\_

The paper includes quotes from at least FOUR scholarly, peer-reviewed sources: (5) \_\_\_\_\_

The paper includes two primary sources from our class: (2) \_\_\_\_\_

The quotes are introduced and correctly cited in the text: (5) \_\_\_\_\_

The Works Cited page is included and correct: (5) \_\_\_\_\_

Grammar and style

There are only a few (if any) instances of passive voice: (4) \_\_\_\_\_

There are only a few (if any) run-on or incomplete sentences or comma splices: (5) \_\_\_\_\_

The sentences throughout generally make sense: (5) \_\_\_\_\_

The paper maintains an academic tone throughout: (2) \_\_\_\_\_

The paper adheres to format guidelines that I gave in class throughout the term: (3) \_\_\_\_\_

Loyalty to assignment instructions: (3) \_\_\_\_\_

Received points on paper: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Possible points: 100 ON PAPER)

Presentation score, out of 20 POINTS \_\_\_\_\_

Total out of 120: \_\_\_\_\_