

GENERAL RESEARCH PAPER RUBRIC

Criteria	Levels of Achievement			Total Possible	300
Content (70%)	Advanced 90 to 100%	Proficient 70 to 89%	Developing 1 to 69%	Not Present	Total
Topic (5%)	13.5-15 points Topic choice is relevant to the course and is focused so as to lead to meaningful research.	10.5-13.4 points Topic choice is mostly relevant to the course and is largely focused so as to lead to meaningful research.	0.1-10.4 points Topic choice is largely unrelated to the course and is largely unfocused.	0 points Not present	
Thesis Statement (20%)	54-60 points Paper contains a focused, one sentence thesis statement which proposes a logical argument. The thesis statement <i>section</i> includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background and precedents—discusses what led to this particular treatment of this particular question. • Definition of terms—research is held accountable only to the stated definitions. • A discussion of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ what data set (set of facts) would be needed to change the thesis statement position; and ○ whether that data set exists. 	42-53.9 points Paper contains an adequately focused, one sentence thesis statement which proposes a logical argument. The thesis statement <i>section</i> generally includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background and precedents—discusses what led to this particular treatment of this particular question. • Definition of terms—research is held accountable only to the stated definitions. • A discussion of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ what set of facts would be needed to change the thesis statement position; and ○ whether that data set exists. 	0.1-41.9 points Paper contains a largely unfocused, thesis statement which does not propose a logical argument.	0 points Not present	
Literature Review, Data Presentation, Reasoning & Support (20%)	54-60 points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper provides a balanced and thorough presentation, fairly including counterpoints, and facts rather than opinions or anecdotes. • Presuppositions are stated early, and assertions are supported with numerous citations from required research. • Relevant and appropriate Biblical references are used in context. 	42-53.9 points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the most part, paper provides a balanced and adequate presentation, including counterpoints, and facts rather than opinions or anecdotes. • Presuppositions are stated, and assertions throughout the paper are generally supported with citations from required research. • Biblical references are used in context. 	0.1-41.9 points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper often fails to provide a balanced and thorough presentation of the facts. • The paper often relies on opinions or anecdotes. • Presuppositions are not stated, and/or assertions throughout the paper are often unsupported with citations from required research. • Biblical references are not used, or not used in context. 	0 points Not present	

Findings & Conclusions (20%)	54-60 points Findings & conclusion answer the thesis statement, and provides a clear connection from the data analysis.	42-53.9 points Findings & conclusion generally answer the thesis statement, and provides a mostly connection from the data analysis.	0.1-41.9 points Findings & conclusion don't answer the thesis statement, and largely fails to provide a clear connection from the data analysis.	0 points Not present	
Organization (5%)	13.5-15 points Paper flows well and is easily read.	10.5-13.4 points Paper mostly flows from topic presentation to conclusions.	0.1-10.4 points Paper has difficult areas to read, is not well organized.	0 points Not present	
Structure (30%)	Advanced 90 to 100%	Proficient 70 to 89%	Developing 1 to 69%	Not Present	Total
Grammar & Spelling (7.5%)	20.2-22.5 points 2 or fewer grammar and spelling errors.	15.8-20.1 points 3-6 grammar and spelling errors.	0.1-15.7 points More than 6 grammar and spelling errors.	0 points Not present	
APA Formatting (7.5%)	20.2-22.5 points 2 or fewer APA errors.	15.8-20.1 points 3-6 APA errors.	0.1-15.7 points More than 6 APA errors.	0 points Not present	
Required Sources (7.5%)	20.2-22.5 points Paper includes the use of at least 5 relevant sources which are appropriate to the topic from a variety of sources, including both viewpoint & medium.	15.8-20.1 points Paper includes the use of at least 4 relevant sources which are appropriate to the topic from a variety of sources, including both viewpoint & medium.	0.1-15.7 points Paper includes less than 4 relevant sources which are relevant to the topic and includes different viewpoints.	0 points Not present	
Required Length (7.5%)	20.2-22.5 points +/-10% of required length, double-spaced. The title page and reference list do not count towards the length.	15.8-20.1 points +/-15% of the required length.	0.1-15.7 points Greater than 15% of the required length.	0 points Not present	
Professor Comments:	Prof Robert Cooper			Total:	/300