

Essay Grading Rubric / Kline					
Grade	A	B	C	D	F
1. Assignment	fully addresses the assignment with originality and imagination	fully explores the complexity of the assignment	wrestles with the assignment	attempts the assignment but generally is unsuccessful & fails one of the following	fails to address the assignment & fails to do one or more of the following
2. Thesis	presents a clear, complex, and thought-provoking thesis	presents a clear and interesting thesis	may be unclear, perfunctory, or simplistic	may be underdeveloped or clichéd	find a thesis or controlling idea
3. Paragraph Development	demonstrates clear, coherent organization, fully and richly developed with relevant and even surprising details, examples, and explanations	are effectively organized and coherently developed, balancing supporting generalizations with relevant, specific details	show evidence of organization and transition, though paragraph development is uneven, brief, or shallow	ramble and appear disorganized and underdeveloped	paragraph around as single, central idea
4. Sentence Structure	is varied and interesting with a clear command of transition and coherence devices	is varied and logical with good transition and coherence	are generally grammatical, though repetitive or simplistic	contain many awkward, vague, and ungrammatical sentences which interfere with reading	form grammatical sentences
5. Diction	reveals a broad, vigorous, precise vocabulary	is competent and appropriate	is acceptable, though limited or vague	is marred by flaws in diction and usage	write standard, college-level English
6. Overall Structure	demonstrates a coherent and satisfying overall structure	introduction and conclusion offer compelling views of the subject & the body is logically organized	introduction and conclusion are acceptable though uninteresting & the essay sequentially structured	is rough, choppy, and / or illogical	seek a logical structure
7. Authorial Voice & Point of View	speaks with a clearly identifiable authorial voice with a clear grasp of audience expectations	presents a clear sense of authorial voice and meets audience expectations	has some sense of voice and audience, with lapses or shifts in point of view	shows little or no awareness of voice or audience	Shows little or no awareness of voice or audience and is inconsistent
8. Documentation	is thorough and correct throughout	is thorough with no major lapses	is attempted but harbors consistent lapses	Is absent or incomplete	is absent or incomplete
9. Punctuation	is virtually free of surface errors	few surface errors disturb the reading	some bothersome grammatical errors that don't interfere with reading	is confused and inconsistent	punctuate correctly
10. Format	is correctly formatted in every detail and correctly documented in every respect.	is correctly formatted and documented with a minimum of error.	attempts proper formatting, with some problems	is incorrectly formatted or shows no awareness of formatting conventions	format correctly
11. General Impression	The reader is enlightened by this carefully thought-out and prepared paper	This well-organized and logically structured paper offers an interesting and readable view of the subject	This essay addresses the assignment but doesn't invoke interest, invite rereading, or engage with the topic at any depth	This essay appears to have been put together quickly and carelessly or betrays major difficulties in writing skills	This paper seems not to recognize the requirements for the assignment or for college level writing.

NG This grade indicates major serious flaws with the assignment, and this paper must be revised after consulting with the instructor. In that consultation, we will identify exactly what needs to be done to bring the paper to a passing level. An NG allows me to avoid a failing grade for the paper and allows the student to correct the flaw(s) in the essay. If a student chooses not to revise and turn-in an NG essay, the grade will be recorded as a zero.

Note: Poor proofreading (spelling, typos, etc) and multiple surface errors will significantly lower your grade.