

Unit Two Paper Rubric
Social Sciences Unit – Cultural Memory
22 Points Possible

Category	5	2-4	0-1
<p><u>Topic / Subject</u> Essays written in an academic context are expected to contain a thoughtful and insightful controlling idea that is sustained throughout the paper.</p>	<p>Topic/subject is clear and insightful. The paper exhibits one or more of the following: - a thought-provoking controlling idea (hypothesis or thesis statement). - the controlling idea is sustained consistently. - awareness of the larger context (the “so what”). - the writer takes risks in his/her analysis.</p>	<p>Topic/subject is clear and plausible. The paper exhibits one or more of the following: - a clear controlling idea. - the controlling idea is sustained consistently. - analysis sometimes gestures toward the larger context.</p>	<p>Topic/subject is unclear or does not exhibit original thinking: - the controlling idea is not made explicit in the course of the paper. - the controlling idea is not sustained consistently. - the ideas contained in the paper repeat class discussions without elaborating / expanding.</p>
<p><u>Support</u> Essays written in an academic context are expected to provide support for main points with reason, explanations, and examples that are appropriate for the intended audience.</p>	<p>Support information is related to and supportive of the topic/subject: - paraphrases are adeptly connected to the writer's ideas. - quotes are used sparingly. - source material fully & convincingly supports the ideas. - support material is seamlessly integrated with the writing.</p>	<p>Support information may have minor weaknesses : - some attempt is made to connect source material to the writer's ideas. - overuse of quotes. - source material adequately supports the ideas. - support material is integrated with the writing.</p>	<p>An attempt has been made to add support information, but it was unrelated or confusing: - connection between writer's ideas and source material is unclear. - source materials are misused or irrelevant - source material is not integrated with the writing.</p>
<p><u>Organization</u> Essays written in an academic context are expected to be well-organized, in both overall structure and paragraphs.</p>	<p>The paper is well-structured: - the paper's form contributes to its purpose. - paragraphs are unified and coherent. - paragraphs are carefully linked to the topic/subject. - paragraphs are well-ordered. - the paper transitions seamlessly between ideas.</p>	<p>Minor lapses in organization may be present: -paragraphs are adequately organized, unified and/or coherent. -paragraphs are generally linked to the topic/subject. - paragraphs are adequately ordered. - the paper transitions between ideas.</p>	<p>The paper is poorly structured: -organizational flaws undermine its effectiveness. -paragraphs are not well organized, nor are they linked to the topic/subject. - the paper lacks transitions between ideas.</p>

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	3	2	1
<u>Research</u> Essays written in an academic context are expected to utilize independent research.	Research materials - are fully related to the essay topic - add a new dimension or perspective to the topic - enhance the student's credibility	Research materials - relate to the essay topic - reinforce other perspectives or dimensions of the topic - do not detract from the student's credibility	Research materials - are unrelated to the essay topic - are repetitive of other perspectives - may detract from the student's credibility
	2	1	0
<u>Style</u> Essays written in an academic context are expected to be stylistically effective. That is, to contain well structured sentences, well chosen words, and an appropriate tone, as a means of achieving its purpose.	The style enhances the paper's effectiveness and supports its purpose: - fluid sentence structures and creative word choices. - tone appropriate to an academic audience. - the writer's voice is present. - an interesting title that reflects the topic. - engaging introduction and conclusion. - the paper is correctly formatted according to APA standards.	The style contributes to the paper's effectiveness and adequately supports its purpose: - correct sentence structures and appropriate word choices. - tone appropriate to an academic audience. - title reflects the topic. - engaging introduction or conclusion. - Has minor lapses in APA format.	The style detracts from the paper's effectiveness or is inappropriate to its purpose: - poor sentence structure and/or word choice. - tone is inappropriate to an academic audience. - the title does not reflect the topic. - weak introduction and/or conclusion.
	1	0	
<u>Revision</u> Essays written in an academic context should reflect the process of writing through revision.	The paper show substantial revision between the full-length and polished draft.	The paper shows moderate to no revision between the full-length and polished draft.	
<u>APA Format:</u> Essays written in an academic context are expected to conform to a scholarly style guide.	The paper is correctly formatted according to APA standards.	The paper exhibits errors in APA format: – in-text citations – references list – past tense to refer to readings	