

Grading Rubric (100 points possible)

	Exemplary (9-10 points)	Acceptable (7-8 points)	Minimal Acceptance (0-6 points)
Organization 10 points maximum	The document is well organized. The format is easy to follow, flows smoothly from one idea to another, and logically conveys the key ideas. The style remains consistent.	The document is presented in a thoughtful manner; there is an overall organization and most transitions are easy to follow, but at times ideas are unclear.	The document is inconsistent and at times unorganized; format is difficult to follow; transitions of ideas are abrupt and distracting.
	Exemplary (17-20 points)	Acceptable (11-16 points)	Minimal Acceptance (0-10 points)
Critical Thinking 20 points maximum	Successfully follows discussion instructions. Demonstrates exceptional ability to engage in scholarly thinking and writing in addressing the three subject areas the student is asked to complete. Demonstrates investigatory and research skills to complete specified component of the discussion.	Follows discussion instructions. Demonstrates higher levels of thinking and writing in addressing the three subject areas the student is asked to complete.	Does not follow instructions specific to the discussion. Does not demonstrate scholarly thinking and writing in addressing the three subject areas the student is asked to complete.
	Exemplary (17-20 points)	Acceptable (11-16 points)	Minimal Acceptance (0-10 points)
Problem Solving 20 points maximum	The document shows discovery and creative problem solving; applies new and original ideas to produce a unique approach to the questions identified.	The document shows evidence of problem solving; applies some novel ideas to produce a solution to the questions identified.	The document shows little creative application, is predictable, and does not include any new or original ideas.
	Exemplary (17-20 points)	Acceptable (11-16 points)	Minimal Acceptance (0-10 points)
Application	Presents a clear	Applies most of the	Does not mention or

20 points maximum	connection to the concepts and applies the research to the document.	concepts from the research throughout the document.	apply the concepts from the research throughout the document.
	Exemplary (25–30 points)	Acceptable (15-24 points)	Minimal Acceptance (0–14 points)
Style and Grammar 30 points maximum	Follows APA writing style and basic rules of formal English grammar and written essay style exhibiting higher levels of critical thinking than memory/recall. Communicates in a cohesive, logical style.	Mostly follows APA writing style and basic rules of formal English grammar and written essay style exhibiting higher levels of critical thinking than memory/recall. Mostly communicates in a cohesive, logical style.	Does not follow APA writing style and basic rules of formal English grammar and written essay style exhibiting higher levels of critical thinking than memory/recall. Does not communicate in a cohesive, logical style.