

Critical Writing Assessment

	Mastery	Exceeds Expectations	Meets Expectations	Needs Improvement	Unacceptable
Intellectual Ambition	You have taken a compelling, original position.	You have identified an original position and begun to analyze it. Thesis is clear and strong.	You have introduced an original idea.	You have not introduced an original argument.	There is no attempt to introduce an original argument.
Argument and Analysis	You use intriguing, original and novel examples and evidence. Arguments are clever and well explained.	You discuss some interesting examples and evidence. Arguments are present but could be more fully developed.	You mention some interesting examples/evidence / arguments, but do not develop or explain them adequately.	You do not discuss any interesting examples. Arguments are weak or unexplained.	There are hardly any examples or arguments at all.
Evidence and Research	Your project directly engages the subject material and demonstrates this with a variety of strong, properly cited evidence. You acknowledge and clearly address alternative positions.	Your project engages the subject material, but needs to cite more research. You address some alternatives, but not enough.	Your project engages the subject material, but does not demonstrate this well enough by citing research. You mention but do not address alternative positions	Your project barely engages the subject material and fails to acknowledge alternative positions.	You should review the assignment instructions.
Organization	Clear thesis; smooth transitions; well-organized support passages; conclusion both summarizes the paper and suggests new directions.	Lacking in one area: Thesis, transitions, body organization or conclusion.	Lacking in two areas: Thesis, transitions, body organization or conclusion.	Lacking in three areas: Thesis, transitions, body organization or conclusion.	Gibberish