GRADING RUBRIC FOR ASSIGNMENT I-1

Criteria	Excellent	Satisfactory	Needs Improvement	Unacceptable
Content & Development	3 points • Essay shows evidence of "thinking more deeply" through your choice of topic and your reasons for selecting it • Your ideas and views are well articulated and insightful, thoughtfully developed, and illustrated with concrete examples • Your essay holds together well and leaves your audience thinking.	2 points • Essay shows evidence of "thinking more deeply" through your choice of topic and your reasons for selecting it • Your ideas and views are presented but would be more convincing with better or more concrete examples • Essay holds together sufficiently	1 point • Essay follows the basic directions but your choice of topic and your reasons for selecting it are not adequately stated • Your own views and ideas on your topic are difficult to sort out • Essay does not hold together well leading to readability issues that detract from it	0 points • Essay shows little coherence and/or does not address the intent of the assignment
Organization, Structure, Style & Clarity	2 points • Essay is organized in a way that makes sense and clearly states your views, then elaborates and supports your position • Ending has a clear closing which follows logically from the preceding text • Essay has effective sentence and paragraph structure • Writing is concise and to the point	1 point • Essay is mostly organized in a way that makes sense and clearly states your views with some support for your position • Ending has a clear closing • Most sentences and paragraphs are structured effectively • Writing is fairly concise and addresses the point adequately	0.5 points • Essay is confusing in parts. You state your views but do not elaborate or effectively support them. • Ending has a closing which only partially flows from the preceding text • Some sentences and paragraphs poorly structured • Writing is wordy, unclear, and/or somewhat unfocused	0 points • Essay is very confusing. Your main point is obscure and poorly supported • Ending has no clear closing. • Sentences and paragraphs are poorly structured • Writing is excessively wordy, unclear and unfocused
Originality (based on TurnItIn)	1 point • Content is original with minimal detection of unoriginality in TurnItin	0.5 points • Some problems with originality detected	0 points • Unacceptably high % of unoriginal content	0 points • Unacceptably high % of unoriginal content
Mechanics: Punctuation, Spelling & Grammar	2 points • No errors in punctuation, spelling, or grammar	1 point • A few punctuation, spelling and/or grammar errors, but none that detract from the meaning	0.5 points • A few errors in punctuation, grammar and spelling that distract, but the meaning and intent of the essay can still be discerned.	0 points • Major distracting errors in grammar, punctuation, and spelling that muddle the meaning of the essay
Adherence to Submission Directions	2 points • Document in specified format • Lemgth is acceptable • File is named correctly as specified • File is readable PDF format • Submission is on time	1 point • Document in specified format • Length is acceptable length • Problems with at least one of the following: --file not named correctly -- PDF is unreadable -- Submission is on time	0.5 points • Problems with document format OR • Length is unacceptable OR • File not named correctly • Late submission	0 points • Incorrect document format • Length is unacceptable • File not submitted as a PDF file or is unreadable and/or • File not named correctly • Late submission
Overall Score	**Exceptional** **9 or more**	**Good-to-Average** **6 or more**	**Below Average** **3 or more**	**Unacceptable** **0 or more**