

## Senior Seminar Research Project Rubric

<b>Component</b>	<b>Exemplary (10)</b>	<b>Proficient (5)</b>	<b>Unsatisfactory (0)</b>
Introduction	Writer uses unique, creative approach to engage reader's attention. Topic is clearly laid out.	Writer attempts to use creative approach to engage reader's attention. Topic is adequately laid out.	Writer does not use creative approach. Topic is unclear.
Thesis	Writer identifies and seeks to fill a gap or oversight in criticism about the text(s). Thesis is impressively stated in the first two paragraphs.	Writer identifies and seeks to fill a gap or oversight in criticism about the text(s), but thesis is unclearly stated or needs revision.	Writer makes obvious or derivative claim about the text(s) and/or thesis is not stated directly.
Theoretical Framework	Theoretical framework is clearly, accurately, and thoroughly established using relevant sources.	Most of the theoretical framework is clearly, accurately, and thoroughly established using relevant sources. Some theory may seem to be inadequately defined.	Theoretical framework is inaccurately or inadequately established.
Close-reading of Text	Writer provides insightful and sophisticated commentary on primary text. Subtle nuances are analyzed.	Writer provides insightful commentary on primary text. The writer misses subtle nuances.	Writer provides little or no insightful commentary on primary text. Writer seems to be summarizing the plot.
Supports	Writer integrates quotes or paraphrases smoothly and analyzes "expert" opinions without "plopping." Relevant and important context information is provided for each quote/paraphrase/example.	Writer has some clunky supports, but overall paraphrases and quotes are not plopped. Quotes and paraphrases are framed adequately.	Writer tends to plop quotes and paraphrases without framing them and without analysis or explanation.
Awareness of Critical Reception of Text	Writer shows an awareness of scholarly work previously published on text(s). Works Cited page reflects thorough research.	Writer recognizes some scholarly work previously published on text(s). Works Cited page reflects adequate research.	Writer does not demonstrate an awareness of scholarly work previously published on text(s). Works Cited page reflects minimal research.
Style	Writer's voice is engaging and consistent. Transitions are smooth. Grammar and mechanics are correct. Academic discourse is engaged well without wordiness or awkward sentences.	Writer's voice is sometimes engaging and usually consistent. Transitions are usually smooth.	Writer's voice is rarely engaging and often inconsistent. Transitions are choppy.

In-Text Citations	MLA style for in-text citations is consistently used correctly. Quotations are punctuated correctly.	Writer generally uses MLA style correctly, but sometimes punctuation is incorrect.	In-text citations are missing or only occasionally used.
Works Cited page	MLA style for works cited is followed consistently. Heading is correctly formatted.	MLA style for works cited is generally followed, but there may be a few problems with presentation.	Writer follows some other style for documenting sources or MLA is seriously inaccurate.
Proofreading	There are no glaring proofreading or editing errors.	There are noticeable proofreading issues, but not more than one per page.	The proofreading errors are distracting.
Conclusion	The conclusion leads the reader further and keeps them thinking and engaged intellectually.	The conclusion hints at a summary but there is an attempt to further intellectual engagement or create reader connections with the argument.	The conclusion is a summary of the argument and nothing more.