**Limited Government and Balanced Budget Research Paper Rubric**

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| **Criteria** | **Levels of Achievement** |
| **Content** **(70%)** | **Advanced** **92-100%** | **Proficient** **84-91%** | **Developing** **1-83%** | **Not Present** | **Total** |
| **Content** | **46 to 50 points:*** All key elements of the assignment are covered thoroughly and in a substantive way. Student provides a well-researched, fully developed analysis of each element of the assignment.
* Content is thoroughly, comprehensively, accurate, and exhibits a nuanced rather than superficial understanding of the terms and concepts assigned.
* Major points are thoroughly stated clearly and are supported by appropriate professional and scholarly literature and/or logic. Student employs sound, reasoned discussion, description, explanation, and evaluation of assigned terms and concepts.

. | **42 to 45.5 points:*** Most key elements of the assignment are covered and in a substantive way. Student provides a mostly developed analysis of each element of the assignment.
* Most content is comprehensively, accurate, and exhibits an adequate understanding of the terms and concepts assigned.
* Most points are adequately stated and are supported by appropriate professional and scholarly literature and/or logic. Student mostly employs sound, reasoned discussion, description, explanation, and evaluation of assigned terms and concepts.

. | **1 to 41.5 points:*** Inadequate coverage of key elements of the assignment. Student inadequately provides a fully developed analysis of each element of the assignment.
* Content is inadequate and not presented comprehensively, accurately, or exhibits an adequate understanding of the terms and concepts assigned.
* Major points are inadequately stated clearly and are not supported by appropriate professional and scholarly literature and/or logic. Student inadequately employs sound, reasoned discussion, description, explanation, and evaluation of assigned terms and concepts.

. | **0 points**Not present |  |
| **Development** | **36.5 to 40 points:*** Includes meaningful and thorough use of source material and analytical reasoning to elaborate upon the topics or themes.
* Research is thorough and timely for the topic.
* Thoroughly includes the required quality and quantity of cited sources to support positions.
* The context and purpose of the writing is thorough and clear.
 | **33 to 36 points:*** Mostly includes meaningful and adequate use of source material and analytical reasoning to elaborate upon the topics or themes.
* Research is adequate and timely for the topic.
* Adequately includes the required quality and quantity of cited sources to support positions.
* The context and purpose of the writing is adequate and clear.
 | **1 to 32.5 points:*** Includes inadequate use of source material and applies very little analytical reasoning to elaborate upon the topics or themes.
* Research is inadequate and not timely for the topic.
* Inadequately includes the required quality and quantity of cited sources to support positions.
* The context and purpose of the writing is inadequate and vague.
 | **0 points**Not present |  |
| **Organization** | **14 to 15 points:*** The introduction provides sufficient and thorough background on the topic and previews major points.
* Ideas flow in a logical and thorough sequence.
* The structure of the paper is clear, thorough and easy to follow. All necessary aspects of the assignment as described in the instructions are clearly identifiable and adequately addressed.
* Paragraph transitions are both present, thorough and logical, and direct the flow of thought throughout the paper.
* Paper is organized into a discussion flowing thoroughly from concept/term to concept/term and includes sufficient introductory, conclusory, and connecting mechanics to make the assignment a research paper, rather than mere a list of terms.
 | **12.5 to 13.5 points:*** The introduction provides sufficient and adequate background on the topic and previews major points.
* Most ideas flow in a logical and adequate sequence.
* The structure of the paper is mostly adequate, clear, and easy to follow. Most necessary aspects of the assignment as described in the instructions are adequately identifiable and adequately addressed.
* Paragraph transitions are mostly present, adequately, and logically, and direct the flow of thought throughout the paper.
* Paper is mostly organized into a discussion flowing from concept/term to concept/term and includes adequate introductory, conclusory, and connecting mechanics to make the assignment a research paper, rather than mere a list of terms.
 | **1 to 12 points:*** The introduction inadequately provides background on the topic and previews major points.
* Ideas do not flow in an inadequate sequence.
* The structure of the paper is inadequate, and not easy to follow. All necessary aspects of the assignment as described in the instructions are not identifiable and inadequately addressed.
* Paragraph transitions are inadequately presented and lacks a direct flow of thought throughout the paper.
* Paper is not organized into a discussion and inadequately flows from concept/term to concept/term and presents an inadequate introductory, conclusory, and connecting mechanics to make the assignment a research paper.
 | **0 points**Not present |  |
| **Structure (30%)** | **Advanced** **92-100%** | **Proficient** **84-91%** | **Developing** **1-83%** | **Not Present** | **Total** |
| **Format/APA** | **19 to 20 points:*** The paper includes title page, reference page, and 5–7 full pages of content.
* The paper is thoroughly organized effectively, uses headings and subheadings and uses reader-friendly aids, (e.g., section summaries, tables of contents, indices, appendices, etc.) as appropriate.
* The reference page(s) contains complete, properly formatted citations in current APA format for all support utilized.
* The paper follows current APA format guidelines.
* The paper is written in 12-pt Times New Roman font, is double-spaced, and has 1” margins. The work is original, giving credit to all borrowed ideas and quotations.
 | **17 to 18.5 points:*** The paper includes title page, reference page, and mostly 5–7 full pages of content.
* The paper is mostly adequately organized effectively, uses headings and subheadings and uses reader-friendly aids, (e.g., section summaries, tables of contents, indices, appendices, etc.) as appropriate.
* The reference page(s) contains mostly complete, properly formatted citations in current APA format for all support utilized. The paper follows current APA format guidelines.
* The paper is mostly written in 12-pt Times New Roman font, is double-spaced, and has 1” margins. The work is mostly original, giving credit to all borrowed ideas.
 | **1 to 16.5 points:*** The paper does not include and/or title page, reference page, and lacks 5–7 full pages of content.
* The paper lacks effective use of headings and subheadings and uses reader-friendly aids, (e.g., section summaries, tables of contents, indices, appendices, etc.) as appropriate.
* The reference page(s) is incomplete, improperly formatted citations in current APA format.
* The paper does not follow current APA format guidelines.
* The paper is not written in 12-pt Times New Roman font, lacks double-line spacing, and lacks 1” margins. The work is not original, and lacks giving credit to all borrowed ideas.
 | **0 points**Not present |  |
| **Grammar/****Punctuation/****Spelling** | **14 to 15 points:*** Rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed.
* Spelling is correct.
 | **12.5 to 13.5 points:*** Most rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed.
* Most spelling is correct.
 | **1 to 12 points:*** Inadequate rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed.
* Minimal spelling is correct.
 | **0 points**Not present |  |
| **Readability****/Style** | **9.25 to 10 points:*** Sentences are complete, clear, and concise.
* Sentences are well-constructed with consistently strong and varied structure.
* Sentence transitions are present and direct the flow of thought.
* Words used are precise and unambiguous.
* The paper employs authoritative, persuasive, statesmanlike voice.
 | **8.5 to 9 points:*** Most sentences are complete, clear, and concise.
* Most sentences are well-constructed with consistently strong and varied structure.
* Most sentence transitions are present and direct the flow of thought.
* Most words used are precise and unambiguous.
* The paper mostly employs

 authoritative, persuasive,  statesmanlike voice. | **1 to 8.25 points:*** Few sentences are complete, clear, and concise.
* Few sentences are well-constructed with consistently strong and varied structure.
* Few sentence transitions are present and direct the flow of thought.
* Few words used are precise and unambiguous.
* The paper poorly employs

 authoritative, persuasive,  statesmanlike voice. | **0 points**Not present |  |
| **Professor****Comments:** |  | **Total** | **/150** |