SCORING GUIDE

All writing assignments for this course are graded using scoring grids based on these criteria.? Areas of assessment are abbreviated for purposes of grading including the categories of Organization and Format, Content and Clarity, and Evaluation/Synthesis/Assessment.? The information that follows provides detailed information of grading criteria for each category.

ORGANIZATION AND FORMAT

1. Sentence Structure

The sentences are varied in length and structure

The paper uses appropriate vocabulary

Sentences are grammatically correct and have few or no errors in punctuation

2. Paper Structure

The introductory paragraphs identify and summarize the main idea, revealing an understanding of the assignment

The sentences support the paragraph?s main idea

The introductory paragraphs identify general sources of information being used

Paragraphs contain a topic sentence that reflects a major point requiring elaboration

The body of the paper develops and supports points mentioned in the introduction

The concluding paragraphs of the paper summarize the main idea based on information presented in the body of the paper

The paper uses transitions between sentences and paragraphs

3. Format

The paper is typed or word-processed, proofread, appropriately spaced (double-spaced, 1-inch margins), checked for spelling (spell-check does not ensure that you have used words correctly, i.e., their and there), has numbered pages that pertain to the preferred format, and uses 12-point Times New Roman Font

The paper includes a cover page

The paper includes an abstract as required by APA format rules

The paper includes citations that correspond with the sources used

Sources are properly noted on the reference page

CONTENT AND CLARITY

1. Clarity

The paper is clear, focused, purposeful, and enhanced by significant detail that captures a reader?s interest

The paper creates a vivid impression, makes a clear point, or tells a whole story

Thoughts are clearly expressed and directly relevant to a key issue, theme, or story line

2. Depth

The paper uses knowledge, experience, or relevant examples to support and illustrate statements of fact or opinion

The paper identifies subtle meaning and implications

The paper provides details which consistently inform, surprise, or delight the readier?or just expand his/her thinking

The paper makes meaningful links between the main idea and other contexts (interpersonal, social, historical, etc.)

ANALYSIS

1. Analysis

The paper identifies and explores patterns relevant to its theme

The paper uses creative and diverse ways to approach a problem or answer a question

The paper provides a compelling way of thinking about the main idea or problem

2. Synthesis

The paper pulls together information to draw logical conclusions

The paper looks at the problem from different angles

The paper reflects on how others have approached the same question or problem

3. Evaluation

The paper identifies the need for more information and/or experience

The paper recognizes that assumptions have causes and consequences

The paper weighs information and experiences to come to its conclusion

ASSIGNMENT SPECIFIC

Any assignment specific items would be included here, i.e., interviewing subjects, group work, etc.