

These rubrics may be used to assess the research paper drafting and review process in history and politics courses delivered on ground. Alternatively, instructors may use a prospectus to assess the drafting and review process.

“Milestones” Rubrics

In addition to the 200 points available for completed research papers students will also be awarded 50 points for completing the following specific tasks in preparation for the final submission. Completion of these tasks will enable instructors to monitor progress and offer advice.

“**Milestone 1**” (20 points) *Introduction and annotated bibliography*. The introduction should establish a clear thesis statement that is directly responsive to the question and set out a “road map”, which indicates the structure of the answer. The annotated bibliography should demonstrate a broad understanding of the arguments advanced in the resources used to research the essay and comment on similarities and differences of interpretation and theoretical perspective.

Exemplary L4	Proficient L3	Developing L2	Emerging L1	Score
The thesis is clearly stated in the introduction and is convincing. The introduction also provides a clear “road map” for the essay, which consists of a minimum of three distinct analytical points that support the thesis. The annotated bibliography contains an excellent range of scholarly resources that have been summarized accurately and evaluated explicitly with reference to the research topic.	There is a thesis in the introduction but it could be stated in a more succinct or powerful way. The introduction conveys some indication of how the essay is going to develop the argument. The annotated bibliography contains a good range of scholarly resources that have been accurately summarized and their utility has been assessed with reference to the research topic.	There is a thesis but it is overly broad, unsustainable, or not appropriately focused. The introduction gives little indication of how the essay will unfold. The annotated bibliography contains an acceptable range of scholarly resources that have been summarized and evaluated, but there may be some evidence of misunderstanding.	There is no discernible thesis in the introduction or the thesis fails to address the question. The introduction fails to indicate how the essay will unfold. The annotated bibliography does not contain an acceptable range of scholarly resources, and/or summarizes with error, and/or fails to evaluate utility with reference to the research topic.	L1 0-13 L2 14-15 L3 16-17 L4 18-20 Score:

“**Milestone 2**” (30 points) *Essay draft for instructor review*. This should be complete to enable the instructor to comment usefully. It is expected that even the best draft will exhibit some flaws and have some room for improvement, but every draft should demonstrate some capacity to meet expectations in terms of analysis and evaluation, knowledge and understanding, and communication and presentation.

Exemplary L4	Proficient L3	Developing L2	Emerging L1	Score
The draft is complete. The essay approximates the L4 descriptors in the research paper rubric.	The draft is complete. The essay approximates the L3 descriptors in the research paper rubric.	The draft is complete or very nearly complete. The essay approximates the L2 descriptors in the research paper rubric.	The draft is not complete and/or the essay approximates the L1 descriptors in the research paper rubric.	L1 0-17 L2 18-21 L3 22-25 L4 26-30 Score: