

Final Paper Rubric

Name: _____ Date: _____

AREA I – CONTENT / PAPER SECTIONS	Excellent Strong Control	Proficient Some Control	Developing Little Control
1. Abstract • Concise overview of the topic: who, what, where, when, how, including statement of hypothesis			
2. Literature Review • Comprehensive overview of current research, trends, concepts, themes, and controversies related to the topic			
3. Materials and Methods • Clearly outlines in paragraph format the project design in the Investigation Type handout			
• Clearly describes methods to be used in detail with materials integrated into methods			
• Clearly describes how project data will be measured including unit and in experimental projects how independent variables will be changed by researcher			
• Documents manufacturer and model and/or catalog number of all equipment and materials to be used, if appropriate			
• Clearly outlines how data will be statistically analyzed (average, mean, stand. deviation, etc.) and/or graphically (scatter plot, bar graph, pie chart, etc.)			
• One could read the paper then recreate the investigation and obtain similar results			
4. Results • Clearly states an OBJECTIVE, narrative summary of data collected			
• Avoids common errors: listing off of data, overreliance on graphs and tables, interpretation of data, etc.			
• Tables and graphs come after text, but do not replace it: graphs have titles, X and Y axes are labeled appropriately, legend/key, if necessary, is present.			
5. Discussion • Offers a concise explanation of the results without merely repeating results section of the paper			
• Relates findings to others' theories and ideas revealed in the Lit. Review section			
• Evaluates methodology and identifies weaknesses and/or gaps in the process.			
• Suggests a plan for future experimental steps to refine and answer questions raised in original experiment			
6. Conclusion • Draws a reasonable, general conclusion from the project; avoids hyperbole, does not make too broad conclusions based on small data set, sample size, etc.			
• Identifies a creative and coherent short and long term plan			

AREA II – MECHANICS/CONVENTIONS/FORMAT	Excellent Strong Control	Proficient Some Control	Developing Little Control
1. Basic APA Format • Use title page with a "header" and "running head", leveled APA project headings			
• Integrates others' ideas into paper and successfully uses APA style parenthetical citation. Strives to use a variety of quote integration strategies.			
2. Tone/Voice • Demonstrates a clear understanding of task and audience through tone/voice			
• Maintains proper scientific "skepticism" in word choice (suggests, implies, etc.)			
3. Reference Page • Includes properly formatted "Reference" page: it's on a separate page, alphabetized, double spaced, use of hanging indentation, only sources cited, etc.			
• Includes breadth and depth of resources with a minimum of 4 - 6 sources			
4. Grammar and Mechanics • Demonstrates evidence of editing and command of conventions and mechanics			
• Consistently follows the rules of standard English for usage, spelling of commonly used words, capitalization, and punctuation			

COMMENTS: (Comments are greatly appreciated by the students especially if the "Developing" column is marked. Students need to understand where their strengths and weaknesses are in their presentation.)

	Score out of 10	Weight	Total Points
AREA 1		70%	
AREA 2		30%	
TOTAL Points Out of 100	/100		