

Course paper

		Exceptional	Meets expectations	Needs improvement	Major difficulties
Current status of the topic		Student describes the current status of their topic well. 80	Student describes the current status of their topic, but not in sufficient detail. 60	Student describes the current status of their topic poorly. 40	Student does not describe the current status of their topic. 0
Mechanics	Spelling, grammar, and writing style	One to three spelling, grammar or editing errors. Paper shows appropriate vocabulary and writing style. 20	Four to five spelling, grammar, or editing errors. Paper may have some inappropriate vocabulary (e.g., personal pronouns) and writing style. 10	Six to seven spelling, grammar or editing errors. Paper includes a lot of inappropriate vocabulary and writing style. 5	Eight or more spelling, grammar or editing errors. Paper includes much inappropriate vocabulary and writing style. 0
	Integration of information	Information is presented in such a manner that there are transitions between topics and the articles are integrated with each other. 10	Information is presented in such a manner that there are transitions between topics and the an attempt is made to have the articles integrate with each other. 8	Information is presented in such a manner that there are transitions between topics but the articles are not integrated with each other. 5	Information is presented in a way that does not flow from one section to the next. Articles are summarized in a list like fashion. 0
	Length	Paper meets length requirements (a minimum of four full pages of text - paper reaches the bottom line of the fourth page of text). Paper does not go over six pages. 25	Paper is shorter than four full pages, but contains useful information – or goes over six pages. 15	Paper is shorter than three full pages but longer than two full pages – or goes over seven pages. 5	Paper is shorter than two full pages – or goes over eight pages. 0
	Spacing and font	Paper is double spaced, utilizes a 12-point serif font, and has 1 inch	Paper is missing one of these elements.	Paper is missing more than one of these elements.	

		margins.			
		10	5	0	
	Title page	Paper has a title page that is formatted according to APA instructions posted on Canvas.	Paper has a title page that is not formatted according to APA instructions posted on Canvas.	Paper does not have a title page	
		5	2.5	0	
References	At least 3 sources	Three academic, peer-reviewed sources are referenced (including at least two recent empirical psychology journal articles – maximum 1 review/meta-analysis/case study). No non-academic/non peer-reviewed sources are used in a substantive manner.	Two academic, peer-reviewed sources are referenced (including at least one recent empirical psychology journal article – maximum 1 review/meta-analysis/case study) and/or the criteria for full marks are met, but non-academic/non peer-reviewed sources are used in a substantive manner.	One academic peer-reviewed source only is used and/or the criteria for a higher grade are met, but non-academic/non peer-reviewed sources are used in a substantive manner.	No academic sources are referenced.
		30	20	10	0
	APA formatted in text references	Student used in-text references and a SINGLE direct quotation (not a block quote) is included and formatted correctly.	In text references were used but contained errors.	No use of in-text references. NOTE if in text citations are completely missing the paper MAY be considered academic misconduct and MAY reported as plagiarism for failure to cite sources of information.	
				0	

		5	2.5		
	APA direct quotation	A SINGLE direct quotation (not a block quote) was included and was formatted correctly. 5	A SINGLE direct quotation (not a block quote) was included but it was formatted incorrectly. 4	An incorrect number of direct quotes were used. 2	No direct quote(s) was/were used OR the direct quote(s) was/were block quotes (40 words or more) 0
	APA formatted reference list	Student created reference list correctly. Maximum 1-2 errors. 5	Student created reference list correctly. Maximum 3-4 errors. 2.5	Numerous errors in the reference list. 5+ errors 0 NOTE if a reference list is completely missing the paper MAY be considered academic misconduct and MAY reported as plagiarism for failure to cite sources of information.	
	Articles included	A full copy of all articles used are included. 5	A partial copy of articles used are included. 2.5	Copies of articles used are not included. 0	

*The instructor reserves the right to modify grades to give partial marks within a category (i.e., students may fall between exceptional and meets expectations in some instances/categories).