Grading Rubric for Papers

Course: MGMT 670 9043 Strategic Management Capstone (2218)

Criteria	Exceptional (90% and above)	Good - meets expectations (80-89%)	Needs improvement (70-79%)	Unsatisfactory (<70%)	Criterion Score
Thesis statement	5 points Student develops a focused and sophisticated research question or thesis that enhances the scholarly discussion of questions and ideas that are important to scholars in the discipline.	4 points Student develops a focused and sophisticated research question or thesis, engaging with the questions and ideas of the field.	3 points Student develops a research question that is clear, but not focused or sophisticated, and may or may not engage with questions and ideas important in the discipline.	2 points Student develops a research question that is unclear or confused, or does not at all engage with the questions and ideas important to scholars in the discipline.	/ 5
Introduction	5 points The writing provides an exceptional roadmap for the essay. In addition, the introduction includes meets **all** of the following criteria: • The introduction contextualizes the thesis statement by referring	4 points The writing provides a clear roadmap for the essay. In addition, the introduction includes meets **at least 3** of the following criteria: • The introduction contextualizes the thesis statement by referring to larger	3 points The writing provides a basic roadmap for the essay. In addition, the introduction includes meets **at least 2** of the following criteria: • The introduction contextualizes the thesis statement by referring to larger	2 points The writing provides an incomplete roadmap for the essay. In addition, the introduction includes meets **fewer than 2** of the following criteria: • The introduction contextualizes the thesis statement by	/ 5

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	to larger issues in the discipline. • The introduction provides rationale for pursuing the thesis by demonstrating a research need or question. • The introduction articulates how the paper will address the key question or issue being studied. • The introduction refers to relevant, appropriate scholarly literature.	issues in the discipline. • The introduction provides rationale for pursuing the thesis by demonstrating a research need or question. • The introduction articulates how the paper will address the key question or issue being studied. • The introduction refers to relevant, appropriate scholarly literature.	issues in the discipline. • The introduction provides rationale for pursuing the thesis by demonstrating a research need or question. • The introduction articulates how the paper will address the key question or issue being studied. • The introduction refers to relevant, appropriate scholarly literature.	referring to larger issues in the discipline. • The introduction provides rationale for pursuing the thesis by demonstrating a research need or question. • The introduction articulates how the paper will address the key question or issue being studied. • The introduction refers to relevant, appropriate scholarly literature.	

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Argument and synthesis of knowledge	40 points The argument builds logically upon the thesis with research-based, discipline-appropriate supporting facts, evidence, and/or data. Student clearly describes major methodologies and practices of the field and implements them in creative and innovative ways. The writing demonstrates the ability to interpret, analyze, and synthesize information to advance the argument.	32 points Minor gaps in logic and argument may appear. Supporting facts, evidence, and/or data are evident. Student describes major methodologies and practices of the field accurately, uses them appropriately in the project. The writing demonstrates the ability to interpret and analyze information to support the argument.	24 points Logical arguments may be one-sided, or incomplete, or may be based on inadequate sources. Student describes major methodologies and/or practices of the field, but may have some omissions or problems in implementation (such as using an adequate methodology, rather than an exemplary one). The writing demonstrates the ability to summarize information that supports the argument.	16 points Fuzzy logic may be evident and adequate supporting evidence is lacking. Student's work does not accurately or thoroughly describe the major methodologies and practices of the field, may implement them inappropriately. The writing demonstrates the ability to refer to external information with limited ability to support the argument.	/ 40

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Sources and Support	15 points Student communicates, organizes and synthesizes complex and contradictory information from multiple sources to advance knowledge in the discipline at a professional level. Student accurately quotes, paraphrases, and cites information in ways that are true to the original context with no errors.	12 points Student clearly and effectively communicates, organizes and synthesizes complex and contradictory information from multiple sources to advance knowledge in the discipline. Student quotes, paraphrases and cites information correctly and consistently, using information in ways that are true to the original context, with minimal errors.	9 points Student communicates results from various sources, but the information is not clearly and effectively communicated or does not advance knowledge in the discipline. Student quotes, paraphrases and cites information mostly correctly and consistently, in ways that are largely true to the original context.	6 points Student does not adequately communicate, organize and/or synthesize information from sources and/or does not advance knowledge in the discipline. Student quotes, paraphrases and cites information but may have many errors or use the information out of context.	/ 15

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Organization	10 points The writing flows smoothly and logically from a well-defined thesis. There is a coherence in each sentence and paragraph that relates clearly to the controlling idea using appropriate examples. The flow of information demonstrates logical reasoning without jumps or shifts. The writing contains a thorough introduction, body sections, conclusion, and smooth transitions.	8 points The writing is organized logically and flows well. Paragraphs are organized to fit the type of essay being written. The writing discusses each controlling idea using appropriate examples. The flow of information demonstrates logical reasoning with minor jumps or shifts. The writing contains an appropriate introduction, body sections, conclusion, and transitions.	6 points The writing demonstrates rudimentary organization and logical structure, but ideas may be more fully developed and supported by more appropriate evidence. Paragraphs are somewhat organized to fit the type of essay being written. The writing discusses the controlling idea using prescribed resources or examples. The writing contains a basic introduction and body sections, but may be missing a conclusion. There may be repetition of thought or ideas. The coherence at times is choppy or flat.	4 points The writing is noticeably lacking in organization. Paragraphs are somewhat organized, at least by shape, to fit the type of essay being written. However, the writing lacks discussion of the proposed controlling idea. There may be repetition of thought or ideas. The writing contains some elements of the introduction and body sections, but may be missing a conclusion. Transitions are not evident.	/ 10

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Style	10 points The writing engages the reader through an original prose style appropriate to the subject. Language is precise and uses terminology appropriate to the discipline. All sentences are solid and reflect mature writing. Variety in sentence structure contributes to the logical flow and enhances readability. Active voice and passive voice are used appropriately for the subject matter.	8 points The writing keeps the reader's attention through a carefully crafted prose style. Language chosen is appropriate to the discipline, but may have minor errors in using terminology. Sentences are strong in thought construct. Variety in sentence structure contributes to the logical flow. Active voice and passive voice are typically used appropriately for the subject matter.	6 points The writing is clear but could be expressed in a terminology more appropriate to the subject. Sentences are sometimes nonstandard or included fragments/run-ons. There is limited use of sentence variety for logical flow. Active voice and passive voice are used inconsistently.	4 points The writing lacks clarity and is sometimes confusing. The language chosen is not appropriate to the subject nor the assignment. Sentences are often nonstandard and included fragments and run-ons. There is no evidence of sentence variety used for logical flow. Active voice and passive voice are used inconsistently.	/ 10

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Grammar and Mechanics	10 points The writing is free of proofreading errors. The writing contains sentences that are always complete and grammatically correct, and free of confusion and ambiguity.	8 points The writing may exhibit a few minor errors in proofreading, but they do not impair the flow of the reading. The writing contains sentences that are complete or which imply unstated connections and/or conclusions.	6 points The writing could benefit from additional proofreading, as some errors impede the flow of the reading. The writing contains some grammatical errors easily corrected. Additional proofreading would help eliminate errors.	4 points The writing exhibits substantial errors in proofreading. The writing is confusing and ambiguous owing to substantial errors of grammar and syntax. There is no evidence of proofreading, editing, or rewriting.	/ 10
Formating	5 points Student provides a high-caliber, correctly formatted assignment in the assigned citation style. All citations in the text and in the references are accurately cited in the appropriate style.	4 points Assignment presents an above-average use of formatting skills with few errors in citation style. Most citations in the text and in the references are accurately cited in the appropriate style.	3 points Appearance of final assignment demonstrates the student's limited ability to use appropriate citation style formatting. Some citations in the text and in the references are accurately cited in the appropriate style.	2 points Appearance of the final assignment is distracting. The number of citation style formatting errors impedes easy reading. Few citations in the text and in the references are accurately cited in the appropriate style.	/ 5

Total	/ 100

Overall Score

Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
31 points minimum	23 points minimum	15 points minimum	0 points minimum