

ETHICAL THEORY

Position Paper: Grading Rubric

Student:

Points Earned:

Grader:

Normalized Grade:

	Excellent	Satisfactory	Mediocre	Unacceptable
General Requirements				
Follows the "General Technical Requirements for Written Assignments" (on page 13 of the syllabus).	0	-2	-4	-5
Followed the conventions of standard English, with no errors hindering comprehension.	0	-2	-4	-5
Organized to convey ideas clearly in a logical fashion.	0	-2	-4	-5
Followed the instructions concerning this paper's topic.	0	-8	-16	-20
Introduction: Background & Statement of the Central Position				
Begins with a brief introductory paragraph that is no more than four sentences long.	0	-2	-4	-5
Clearly presents the central position (or main thesis) that the paper intends to defend in the introductory paragraph.	5	4	2	0
Clearly presents any background information and explains any terminology necessary for someone unfamiliar with the paper's topic to readily understand its central position. (<i>This criteria also applies to claims made in the body of this paper.</i>)	15	12	6	0
Body: Justification of the Central Position				
Clearly presents the principle premises, reasons and/or evidence in support of this paper's central position.	15	12	6	0
Clearly and persuasively explains why these premises, reasons, and/or evidence are plausible, compelling, and difficult to deny.	25	20	10	0
Clearly and persuasively explains the inferences used to show how these premises, reasons, and/or evidence support the central position.	25	20	10	0
Provides relevant and concise examples to help clarify and illustrate important points and concepts.	10	8	4	0
Remains focused on defending its central position without being distracted by inessential details.	10	8	4	0
Provides a generally compelling defense of its central position.	15	12	6	0
No Conclusion				
Ends once it has finished defending its position. There is no concluding paragraph summarizing the paper or explaining the consequences that result from accepting this paper's central claim.	0	-2	-4	-5
Overall, demonstrates full comprehension of the paper's topic while adroitly defending its position.	5	4	2	0