

POLITICAL & SOCIAL THOUGHT

Analytic Summary: Rubric Explanation

	Excellent	Satisfactory	Mediocre	Unacceptable
General Requirements Expected Throughout				
Technical Requirements	The paper follows all the “Formatting Requirements” posted on the course webpage.	The paper generally follows those formatting requirements.	The paper does not follow some of the more important formatting requirements.	The paper suggests a complete lack of awareness concerning the formatting requirements for this assignment.
Clarity	The paper follows the conventions of standard written English, with no errors hindering comprehension. All words are chosen for their precise meanings.	The paper generally follows the conventions of standard written English, with errors not hindering comprehension. Most words are chosen for their precise meanings	The paper generally follows the conventions of standard written English, with errors hindering comprehension. Words are not chosen for their precise meanings.	The paper does not follow the conventions of standard written English, with major errors hindering comprehension. The summary does not acknowledge that key words have precise meanings.
Context	The paper ensures all new or unusual terms are well-defined. Any necessary background information (key concepts, theories, etc.) is accurately and completely explained.	The paper ensures that most new or unusual terms are well-defined. Any necessary background information (key concepts, theories, etc.) is explained.	The paper generally fails to ensure that new or unusual terms are well-defined. Any necessary background information (key concepts, theories, etc.) is not explained.	The paper uses new or unusual terms incorrectly or in ways that make no sense. Any necessary background information (key concepts, theories, etc.) make no sense or are used inaccurately.
Competency	The paper displays competency and understanding of the argument being summarized.	The paper displays reasonable competency and understanding of that argument.	The paper does not display an adequate understanding of the argument.	The paper displays serious misunderstandings about the argument.
Neutrality	The paper summarizes the argument without ever taking a position on whether it is a good argument or not.	The paper generally summarizes the argument, but occasionally indicates approval or disapproval with that argument.	The paper does summarize the argument, but spends too much time assessing the quality of that argument.	The paper spends more time assessing the quality of the argument than actually summarizing it.
Originality	The paper expresses everything in the student’s own words without ever directly quoting the text, the professor, or any other outside sources.	The paper generally expresses everything in the student’s own words, though there are occasional quotations that could have instead been paraphrased.	The paper mainly expresses everything in the student’s own words, but it also has significant and lengthy quotes from the text, the professor, and/or outside sources.	The paper has very little written in the student’s own words, but primarily consists of quotes from the text, the professor, and/or outside sources.
Academic Integrity*	The paper properly cites and/or acknowledges all outside sources using APA formatting. As relevant, the paper includes “References” and “Acknowledgments” sections.	The paper cites and/or acknowledges outside sources, but with sloppy or inconsistent formatting.	The paper displays a minimal effort to cite and/or acknowledge outside sources, but without any clear formatting.	The paper commits plagiarism or suffers from another academic integrity violation.

*Depending on the severity of the circumstances, a mark of mediocre or unacceptable for academic integrity may also result in the instructor reporting a possible academic integrity violation to the Executive Director of the Georgetown University in Qatar Honor Council.

Analytic Summary: Rubric Explanation (Continued)

	Excellent	Satisfactory	Mediocre	Unacceptable
Introduction: Background & The Argument's Thesis				
Background	The paper and its topic is introduced with minimal fanfare in at most four sentences.	The paper and its topic is introduced with little fanfare in no more than four sentences.	The paper and its topic is introduced with too much fanfare, in more than four sentences.	The paper and its topic has no discernible introduction at all.
Thesis Statement	<p>The paper's introductory paragraph clearly and correctly states the argument's main thesis (or central position).</p> <p>(In general, the argument's main thesis is one sentence that clearly states the claim whose justification the body of the paper will summarize. There is nothing wrong with the last sentence of your introduction simply saying, "In this paper, I will summarize [the author's name]'s argument that [the author's main thesis].")</p>	The paper's presentation of the argument's thesis is generally accurate and obvious, but there is no single clear statement of it in the introductory paragraph.	The paper's presentation of the argument's thesis has some mistakes and/or is not contained in the introduction, but must be uncovered or reconstructed from what is actually written in the paper	The paper seriously misunderstands the argument's thesis and/or does not contain the thesis statement in the introduction, and the paper is never clear on what that thesis might be.
Body: Summary of the Argument's Justification for the Thesis				
Organization	<p>The paper's summary of the argument is very easy to follow.</p> <p>It is made explicit which claims are being used as premises (assumptions, reasons, evidence, and/or other important considerations), and how these premises are supposed to support the argument's main thesis.</p> <p>New premises are each distinguished and introduced separately.</p>	<p>The paper's summary of the argument is generally easy to follow.</p> <p>It is clear which claims are being used as premises, and how these premises are supposed to support the argument's thesis.</p> <p>Usually, new premises are distinguished and introduced separately.</p>	<p>The paper's summary of the argument is somewhat difficult to follow.</p> <p>It is somewhat unclear which claims are being used as premises, and/or how these premises are supposed to support the argument's thesis.</p> <p>Separate premises are lumped together without being clearly distinguished.</p>	<p>The paper's summary of the argument is impossible to follow.</p> <p>It is completely unclear which claims are being used as premises. It is completely unclear how the premises are supposed to support the argument's thesis.</p> <p>Premises are presented and discussed randomly, or not at all.</p>
Premises	<p>The paper correctly identifies each principle premise (reason, evidence, and/or other important consideration) offered in support of the argument's main thesis.</p> <p>Each premise is made clear, and, as much as possible, presented in a single statement.</p>	<p>The paper is generally correct about the premises offered in support of the thesis.</p> <p>The premises are all clear, although each may not be presented in a single statement.</p>	<p>The paper makes some important mistakes concerning the argument's premises.</p> <p>The premises are not clear and must be uncovered or reconstructed from what is actually written in the paper.</p>	<p>The paper makes major mistakes concerning the argument's premises.</p> <p>Alternatively, there no premises identified—the paper merely repeats and restates the argument's thesis.</p>

Analytic Summary: Rubric Explanation (Continued)

	Excellent	Satisfactory	Mediocre	Unacceptable
Body: Summary of the Argument's Justification for the Thesis (Continued)				
Plausibility	The paper correctly explains why each premise (reason, evidence, and/or other important consideration) is thought to be plausible, compelling, and difficult to deny by the argument being summarized.	The paper is generally correct about why each of the argument's premises is thought to be plausible.	The paper makes some important mistakes about why each of the argument's premises is thought to be plausible.	<p>The paper makes major mistakes concerning why each of the argument's premises is thought to be plausible.</p> <p>Alternatively, the plausibility of each premise is never clearly explained.</p>
Inferences	The paper correctly explains how each premise (reason, evidence, and/or other important consideration) is supposed to justify the main thesis of the argument being summarized	The paper is generally correct about how each of the argument's premises is supposed to justify the thesis.	The paper makes some important mistakes about how each of the argument's premises is supposed to justify the thesis.	<p>The paper makes major mistakes concerning how each of the argument's premises is supposed to justify the thesis.</p> <p>Alternatively, how each premise supports the thesis is never clearly explained.</p>
Relevance	The paper clearly and insightfully shows the relevance of its parts for summarizing the argument.	The paper is generally clear in showing the relevance of its parts, though some inessential details appear.	The paper is somewhat unclear in the relevance of its parts, and inessential details repeatedly appear.	The paper has significant parts that are not relevant, and there are too many inessential details.
Overall Analysis	Overall, the paper successfully breaks the argument down into its meaningful and relevant parts.	Overall, the paper breaks the argument down into fairly meaningful and relevant parts.	Overall, the paper breaks the argument down into somewhat meaningful and relevant parts.	Overall, the paper fails to meaningfully break the argument down into its relevant parts.
Conclusion				
No Conclusion	There is no conclusion. Once the argument is summarized, the paper immediately ends without any further summary or discussion.	There is a brief (one- or two-sentence) conclusion, where earlier points are summarized and/or nothing new about the argument being summarized is introduced.	There is a small (three- or four-sentence) conclusion, where earlier points are summarized and/or nothing new about the argument is introduced.	There is a lengthy (more than four-sentence) conclusion paragraph, where earlier points are summarized and/or nothing new about the argument is introduced.