

MA 330, Spring 2008 Grading Rubric

There are six grading criteria; the first version of your paper will be graded based on the first five criteria, while the final version will be graded based on all six. Your essay will receive a score of 0 through 10 for each of the first five criteria and 0 through 25 for the sixth.

1. WRITING STYLE

Score: First: _____ Final: _____

A 10 paper is eloquent and effective, with varied sentence structures, good rhythm, fluid transitions, and a distinct voice. A 7 paper is coherent and appropriate, but uneventful and uninspiring. A 2 paper often contains sentences that are not comprehensible and alienating to the reader.

2. ARRANGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Score: First: _____ Final: _____

A 10 paper guides the reader through the text with organizational clarity and ingenuity, providing the reader with the information that is needed at each moment. A 7 paper does not go out of its way to help readers, but is reasonably well structured and logically sound. A 2 paper is skimpy or bloated, with haphazard organization, regular disregard for logic, and little consideration for the reader.

3. EDITING AND CONVENTIONS

Score: First: _____ Final: _____

A 10 paper demonstrates maturity with regard to grammar, syntax, word choice, and attribution of sources. A 7 paper is reasonably well edited but features a small number of distracting errors in phrasing, punctuation, citation, etc. A 2 paper has regular or repeated problems with these features that impedes reader comprehension.

4. MATHEMATICAL DEPTH

Score: First: _____ Final: _____

A 10 paper demonstrates a sure grasp of mathematics, providing insightful connections from the material to other areas of mathematics and science and/or arguing effectively for the value of the material in play. A 7 paper responds appropriately to the assignment, but does not effectively communicate the worth of the material. A 2 paper exhibits mathematical errors that prevent understanding by the reader.

5. MATHEMATICAL STYLE

Score: First: _____ Final: _____

A 10 paper illustrates the mathematics under discussion with clear proofs, illuminating examples, or a combination thereof, and stimulates the intellect. A 7 paper contains adequate mathematical content, but provides too many or too few details in proofs and/or unenlightening examples. A 2 paper is often incomprehensible, even if mathematically correct.

6. DEPTH OF REVISION

Score: First: _____ Final: _____

A 25 paper demonstrates a mature and holistic approach to the revision process and has been revised in areas that were weaknesses and also in areas that were prior strengths. An 18 paper contains revisions, but only to specific areas of great weakness and without regard for overall improvement to the paper. A 12 paper contains only minor revisions and demonstrates a lack of effort on the part of the author.

7. INSTRUCTOR COMMENTS/PEER EDITING FEEDBACK