

Rubric for Essay Assignments

Minimum requirements for passing grade:

- Essays address and answer questions asked in instructions.
- Essays show that student read (or in the case of a film, watched) the material assigned to address these questions.
- Essays show solid grasp of concepts covered in class materials.

Additional requirements for better grade:

- Writing is analytical, shows critical thinking skills and does not use subjective statements (“I think”, “In my opinion”, etc.) or personal anecdotes.
- Paper uses quotations or paraphrases from readings and cites these appropriately.
- Paper includes list of works/sources cited.

Additional requirements for an A grade:

- Writing is clear, well-organized and flows well.*
- Grammar and spelling are correct.

*An excellent book on how to write clear, well-flowing prose is *The Elements of Style* by William Strunk.