

PUNISHMENT & CORRECTIONS

ESSAY ASSIGNMENT GRADING RUBRIC

	LOWER RANGE <i>(0 – 6 pts)</i>	MIDDLE <i>(7 - 8 pts)</i>	UPPER RANGE <i>(9 - 10 pts)</i>	SCORE
THESIS/FOCUS	Essay does not address all parts of the question; essay addresses other issues/topics unrelated to the question		Essay addresses all parts of the question; essay does not address other issues/topics unrelated to the question	
COURSE CONTENT	Connections to course content (i.e., lectures, textbook) missing or linkage unclear; course content poorly understood		Integrates range of concepts, facts, ideas from course content; demonstrates accurate understanding of course content	
SPELLING & GRAMMAR	Significant spelling, punctuation, and/or grammatical errors		Free of spelling, punctuation, and grammatical errors	
READABILITY & STRUCTURE	Paragraphs disorganized, tangential, or unrelated to one another; transitions missing or poorly done; weak ending; difficult to read and engage with essay due to writing		Paragraphs logically organized to build support for thesis/position; effective transitions connecting paragraphs; strong conclusion; engaging essay that was easy to read; educated reader about given topic or presented convincing argument in favor of thesis	
GENERAL COMMENTS				

Note: Essays that appear to be based solely on other courses, those that have no obvious connection to the present course, and "journals" focusing solely on one's own life experiences will receive deductions in all areas above no matter how well written.