

Career Research Argument Essay Rubric

Trait	Level 4: Exceeds Standards	3.5	Level 3: Meets Standards	2.5	Level 2: Approaches Standards	1.5	Level 1: Below Standards	0
Trait 1: Position	Establishes and maintains a focused position, clearly distinguishing it from other positions on the topic.		Establishes and maintains a clear position.		Establishes a position that seems to shift throughout the essay.		Attempts to establish a position.	
Trait 2: Elaboration	Thoroughly supports the position. Reasons and evidence included are the strongest possible from credible selected texts.		Supports the position using many pieces of credible evidence which strongly support the overall position.		Supports the position with some pieces of evidence, some of which are not relevant to the overall position.		Supports the position with few reasons and little evidence.	
Trait 3: Textual Analysis	Analyzes ideas and information from texts and interprets the author's meaning, citing the source when they do.		Explains textual evidence, beginning to analyze the credibility of the sources, citing the source when they do.		Explains some evidence and their connection to the overall position, rarely or inaccurately citing the source.		Restates information from the text with few attempts to connect to the overall position, with few or no references to sources.	
Trait 4: Counter Argument	Discusses and refutes the counter-argument and relevant evidence thoroughly.		Discusses and refutes the counter-argument.		Discusses an alternate position.		Mentions an alternate position very briefly, or does not make it clear which position is stronger.	
Trait 5: Organization	An introduction and all reasons and evidence flow smoothly, and conclude in a strong supportive section. Uses a variety of effective transitions		Introduces and concludes the argument and clearly orders reasons, evidence, and counter-argument. Uses many transitions.		Reasons and evidence are ordered so they make sense. Some parts fit better into the structure than others. Uses transitions which are sometimes hard to follow.		Demonstrates some organization into sections, but structural elements and/or transitions create confusion.	
Trait 6: Conventions	Demonstrates a sophistication in grammar and mechanics using a variety of sentence structures or complex punctuation.		Demonstrates a command of grammar and mechanics across most of the essay.		Demonstrates an uneven command of English grammar and mechanics due to some errors across the essay.		Frequent errors in grammar and mechanics interfere with audience understanding.	

Final Grade: _____

For comments or clarification, you may make an appointment with Ms. Spinosa or Ms. Aristide.