

## University 109 Argumentative Essay Rubric

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_ /50

CATEGORY	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Score
Thesis	The thesis is clearly defined, in addition to the "so what", "who cares", and three arguments in support of the thesis.  <b>8pts</b>	The thesis and arguments are present, but the "so what" and/or the "who cares" may not be clearly identified.  <b>7-6pts</b>	The thesis is difficult to extract. There are fewer than three arguments and the "so what" and/or "who cares" are unclear or not present.  <b>5-3pts</b>	The thesis is not present. Supporting arguments and the "so what" and/or "who cares" are unclear or not present.  <b>2-0pts</b>	<b>/8pts</b>
Support	Each argument is clearly explained (I say). An example(s) – in direct relation to the thesis- are provided in great detail that creates a vivid and clear picture of the situation before the influence of doubt and the affects thereafter. Both sides of each argument are well displayed.  <b>12-10pts</b>	Each argument is clearly explained (I say). An example(s) are provided, but detail may lack vividness and may present only the affects of doubt in the situation. Rebuttals are given for each argument, but one argument may be missing a rebuttal.  <b>9-7pts</b>	Arguments are explained in an unclear manner. Examples are provided, but lack detail and may be missing two rebuttals.  <b>6-4pts</b>	Arguments are explained in an unclear manner. Examples are few, detail is lacking, and there are no rebuttals to any of the arguments.  <b>3-0pts</b>	<b>/12pts</b>
Organization	Organization clearly demonstrates main points, evidence, and conclusions in a sequential fashion. There is little to no confusion about the essay's purpose or direction.  <b>10-9pts</b>	Organization demonstrates main points, evidence, and conclusions, in a sequential fashion. There may be some confusion, but the overall idea and purpose of essay is identifiable.  <b>8-7pts</b>	Ideas are not well connected and lack clarity. Main points, evidence, and conclusions may be evident, but not connected appropriately.  <b>6-4pts</b>	There are no connections between ideas and no clarity. There is much confusion.  <b>3-0pts</b>	<b>/10pts</b>
Focus	Essay maintains focus on topic/subject throughout response. Each argument's evidence remains pertinent and relevant to the topic and thesis, in addition to tying each conclusion back to the thesis.  <b>8-7pts</b>	Essay may exhibit gaps in focus on topic/subject, but generally stays on topic. Each argument and conclusion demonstrates some evidence of tying back to the thesis.  <b>6-5pts</b>	Essay may lose focus or exhibit major gaps in focus on topic/subject. There is little evidence of the arguments' relevance to the thesis.  <b>4-3pts</b>	Essay fails to establish focus on topic/subject. Arguments are not relevant to the thesis at all.  <b>2-0pts</b>	<b>/5pts</b>
Fluency	Essay demonstrates a variety of sentence usage in length and rhythm, in addition to good use of transitions and complex structures. Sentences convey clear ideas with little interference from, and very few, grammatical errors.  <b>7-6pts</b>	Essay demonstrates a variety of sentence usage in length and rhythm, but there are some choppy areas. Some transitions and complex structures are used; however, grammatical errors may interfere with clarity, but not drastically.  <b>5-4pts</b>	Essay demonstrates very little sentence length, rhythm, or complex structure. The flow is majorly choppy and grammatical errors stifle comprehensibility.  <b>3-2pts</b>	Sentence fluency is lacking. Essay is not comprehensible.  <b>1-0pts</b>	<b>/10pts</b>
Outside Peer Signature	Signature is present.  <b>5pts</b>	N/A	N/A	No signature.  <b>0pts</b>	<b>/5pts</b>