

## Essay Rubric

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Developing	Needs Improvement	Points
<b>1. Argument &amp; Thesis (20 pts)</b>	Clear, insightful, and original thesis; argument is nuanced and compelling throughout.	Clear thesis and consistent argument, with some insight.	Thesis is present but vague or underdeveloped; argument lacks clarity or focus.	Weak or missing thesis; argument is unclear or inconsistent.	___ / 20
<b>2. Analysis &amp; Depth (20 pts)</b>	Demonstrates deep, critical analysis of the system; identifies complex relationships and meaningful interventions.	Sound analysis with some depth; identifies key problems and interventions.	Basic analysis; some superficial or general observations; interventions lack specificity.	Minimal analysis; little to no critical thinking or detail in system evaluation.	___ / 20
<b>3. Evidence, Citations, and References (15 pts)</b>	Integrates relevant, high-quality evidence; sources are properly cited in-text and reference list is complete.	Uses appropriate evidence with minor citation errors; reference list is mostly complete.	Limited or inconsistent use of evidence; citations are incomplete or incorrect.	Little to no use of evidence; citations are missing or incorrect; no reference list.	___ / 15
<b>4. Organization &amp; Flow (15 pts)</b>	Excellent structure and logical flow; transitions are smooth; writing is easy to follow.	Good organization; minor issues with flow or transitions.	Basic structure but may lack clarity or logical progression.	Disorganized or hard to follow; paragraphs jump or lack cohesion.	___ / 15
<b>5. Creativity &amp; Insight (10 pts)</b>	Proposes original, insightful, and feasible solutions that show strong creativity and systems thinking.	Offers practical and reasonable solutions with some insight.	Solutions are generic or somewhat impractical; limited originality.	Little to no attempt to propose thoughtful or realistic improvements.	___ / 10
<b>6. Following Directions (10 pts)</b>	Fully meets all assignment requirements, including prompt, length, formatting, and structure.	Meets most requirements with only minor omissions.	Misses some key aspects of the instructions or requirements.	Does not meet assignment requirements; major components are missing.	___ / 10
<b>7. Grammar, Style, &amp; Mechanics (10 pts)</b>	Virtually no errors in grammar, punctuation, or spelling; writing is polished and academic.	Few errors that do not interfere with readability; mostly appropriate academic tone.	Noticeable errors or awkward phrasing that affect clarity.	Frequent or distracting errors; writing lacks polish and professionalism.	___ / 10

Final Score: \_\_\_ / 100