GRADING RUBRIC FOR REFLECTIVE ESSAY

CRITERIA	5	4	3	2	1
Exploration	Shows great depth and breadth of thought.	and focused.	Does not develop beyond generalizations.	Limited to the simple and obvious.	Does not explore.
Explanation	Discusses a number of relevant ideas from readings with depth and originality.	number of	Discusses one or two general points from the readings in a cursory manner.	Makes minimal and inadequate use of readings.	Makes no reference to or completely misunderstands readings.
Analysis	Offers clear positions, well-supported by reasons; addresses counterarguements. Excellent citations, making use of all relevant readings. Conveys deep understanding of abstract and complex relationships among ideas and experiences.	Offer positions, supported by reasons. Notes counterarguments. Good citations, drawing on most relevant readings. Makes solid connections between ideas and experiences, perhaps from more than one angle.	Offers positions, but minimally supported. Largely Ignores counterarguments. Engages readings at basic level, few citations. Is limited to generalizations. Makes only the most obvious connections.	Offers few positions and/or does not support them. Ignores disproving evidence. Does not cite sources. Makes few connections, which are either illogical or flimsy.	Offers no or almost no positions, does not support. Very little engagement with course material Does not make connections or perceive relationships.
Synthesis	Reveals deep insight and understanding through creative and memorable reflection on implications.	Discusses a number of significant implications/insights in a thorough and detailed fashion.	Minimally develops obvious and/or general implications and insights.	Mentions a limited number of implications and insights but does not develop them at all.	Does not consider implications or offer insights.
Written Expression	Mature, skillful, clear, and enjoyable. No problems with ESWE	Solid and correct. One or two problems with ESWE	Basic competency. Several deviations from ESWE.	A distracting number of Problems.	Excessively poor.
TOTAL:					
<u>5</u>	10 15 D C	20 B	2 <u>5</u>		

Developed from Jim Josefson, "Don't Argue, Reflect!" PS: Political Science and Politics. October 2005.