

Criteria for Research Reports – Final Report

This assignment is the final outcome of this course. Therefore, the report should include ALL sections of a research paper. Please note that we will be using a modified version of the Research Report Criteria suggested in the Appendix D of the Student Handbook.

As with the previous submissions, one of the most important criteria in this submission is again plagiarism. Please keep in mind that we have no tolerance for plagiarism and those who are identified to have committed this crime should receive zero from this assignment. **However, please check the similarity reports carefully before deducting marks and making final decisions about this issue as Turnitin may sometimes provide misleading percentages in its assessment.**

The final reports should be evaluated out of 30.

1. Content (10%)

15 - 13	Writing is focused on the topic & organized to show a logical progression of ideas which are fully developed with substantial, specific & relevant support [citations, examples etc.] reflecting good synthesis of appropriate sources. Arguments are well formulated, substantiated, and with evidence of critical and independent thought. Demonstrates high level of critical analysis and independent judgement. Displays high quality of arguments in response to the question. Sources fully and accurately identified.
12-10	Writing is focused on the topic & organized to show a logical progression of ideas reflecting some synthesis of appropriate sources. Sometimes ideas are not fully developed and/or lack adequate support. Includes a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of all relevant issues. Displays a very good level of independent and critical judgement. Involves conceptual analysis in relation to certain issues of the argument.
9-7	Writing generally focuses on the topic, but does not always reflect a logical progression of ideas and/or includes some irrelevant information or repetition. Ideas are often not fully developed and/or lack adequate support. Sources not always used appropriately or effectively. Displays some independent thought (e.g. through the use of original examples), but may lack sustained conceptual analysis, tending to accept uncritically the principal arguments in an area.
4-6	Writing not focused on the topic and includes a lot of irrelevant information or repetition. Lacks adequate organisation and often does not reflect a logical progression of ideas. Sources often used inappropriately. Ideas are often not developed and/or not supported. Little evidence of independent thought and critical judgement. Includes a partial and rather superficial coverage of the key issues. Lacks critical analysis.
1-3	Writing only slightly related to the topic. Poor organisation lacking logical progression and focus. Little or no attempt to use sources. Little or no attempt to develop and support ideas. Major inaccuracies and omissions. Unsubstantiated opinion. No evidence of critical judgement.
0	Totally unrelated to topic. Insufficient writing to determine whether student was attempting to address the topic. Copy of a published work/another students' work. Evidence that most of the writing is plagiarized or not the student's own work.

2. Referencing & Style (5%)

5	Used up to date, reliable and relevant references throughout the paper. Includes accurate referencing/citations & a full bibliography (according to APA Style 6 th Edition).
4	Used some references that were not up to date but reliable and relevant citations throughout the paper. Includes accurate referencing/citations & a full bibliography (according to APA Style 6 th Edition).
3	Some references are old/not reliable. Somewhat relevant sources. Minor issues with the use of APA style citations. Minor errors/omissions in referencing & bibliography (according to APA Style 6 th Edition).
2	Most of the references are taken from secondary (as cited in ...)/old/unreliable sources. Relevance has been attempted but not appropriately established. Errors/omissions in referencing & bibliography.
1	Sources used are not primary, old, unreliable, and not relevant OR sources are missing where needed. Errors/omissions in referencing & bibliography.
0	Evidence that most of the writing is plagiarized or not the student's own work.

3. Language (5%)

5	Uses a good range of sentence structures and appropriate vocabulary. Only minor errors. Appropriate register.
4	Uses an adequate range of sentence structures and mostly appropriate vocabulary. Errors do not obscure meaning. Appropriate register.
3	Uses an adequate range of sentence structures and mostly appropriate vocabulary, but errors sometimes obscure meaning OR Although meaning is clear, range of sentence structures and vocabulary is limited and too basic for the task
2	Range of sentence structures is inadequate and vocabulary is often inappropriate. Meaning is sometimes unclear
1	Range & appropriacy of sentence structures and vocabulary is inadequate. Meaning is often unclear OR Evidence that parts of the writing are plagiarized or not the student's own work
0	Incomprehensible. Insufficient writing to evaluate. Copy of a published work/another students' work. Evidence that most of the writing is plagiarized or not the student's own work

4. Use of Feedback (5%)

5 - 4	Student has put maximum effort into the task and made full use of teacher's feedback
3 – 2	Student has put adequate effort into the task and made some use of teacher's feedback
1	Student has put little effort into the task and made little use of teacher's feedback
0	Student has made no attempt to use teacher's feedback OR Student did not submit a draft for feedback OR Teacher did not give feedback because the draft was submitted after a deadline.

5. Presentation (5%)

5-4	Well presented. Word processed or typed with cover page. Followed APA style academic research paper template when formatting the paper. Checked for spelling & typing errors.
3-2	Word processed or typed with cover page but some formatting issues regarding APA style (e.g. cover page style, headings & seriation, margins, no running head, no page numbers). Checked for spelling & typing errors.
1	Did not follow APA style's guidelines. Not checked for spelling & typing errors.
0	No cover page. Many layout & spelling errors OR Copy of a published work/another students' work