

*University of Virginia College at Wise
Writing Rubric (Revised August 2018)*

Student Name _____ Course _____ Year _____

Scale: 4= Excellent 3=Average 2=Adequate 1=Below Average

_____ **A. PURPOSE: frames a topic and/or implies or states a unifying thesis/purpose**

- 4 Purpose is very clear; successfully states and defends thesis/purpose
- 3 Purpose is mostly clear; generally states and defends a thesis/purpose, but may have some digressions
- 2 Purpose is often unclear; some attempt to state or defend a thesis/purpose, but is too broad, overly simplistic, or wanders more than once off topic
- 1 Purpose is vague; states no clear thesis/purpose

_____ **B. ORGANIZATION: organized clear sequence of ideas, unified/complete paragraphs, and effective transitional devices as required by discipline**

- 4 Organization is well sequenced, unified, complete paragraphs, and smooth transitions
- 3 Organization is mostly well sequenced with some transitions, but may lack unity or completeness at times
- 2 Organization is often difficult to follow or disconnected and/or lacking in needed transitions
- 1 Organization is unclear with significant problems in unity, completeness or flow

_____ **C. LANGUAGE: precise, clear, and grammatically correct, reflecting appropriate tone, diction, or style for the rhetorical strategy and audience**

- 4 Language is well chosen and structured to be clear, concise and/or complex as needed, appropriate for strategy and audience and grammar free from error
- 3 Language is mostly well chosen and structured to be generally clear, often concise and/or complex as needed, mostly appropriate to discipline and usually grammar free from error
- 2 Language is often inappropriate, awkward or repetitive with choppy or unclear sentences and/or distracting grammar, spelling or punctuation
- 1 Language is poorly chosen or inappropriate to task or audience with unclear or confusing sentences or is significantly grammatically flawed to the point meaning is lost

_____ **D. SUPPORT: research, visuals, or support sources are sufficient, clear, relevant, credible, and labeled/documented as needed**

- 4 Research, visuals, or support sources are judiciously-chosen and enhance thesis; labels/documentation are impeccable
- 3 Research, visuals, or support sources are mostly relevant or appropriate and mostly labeled/documented
- 2 Research, visuals, or support sources are often irrelevant and/or inappropriate, and are not often labeled/documented
- 1 Research, visuals, or support sources are inappropriate; little to no attempt at labels or documentation when needed
- 0 Research, visuals, or support sources were not needed for this assignment

_____ **E. DEVELOPMENT: logic or analysis is used to build ideas that are complete and complex or deep**

- 4 Development is a logical process, analysis, or synthesis with completeness and complexity
- 3 Development is a mostly logical process or analysis, but may be missing a detail or step, or lack complexity or depth
- 2 Development is not often a logical process and/or may miss important details or steps, has unnecessary summary, or oversimplifies ideas
- 1 Development is illogical or lacking in analysis with obvious, incomplete, or superficial development

_____ **F. HOLISTIC SCORE: assignment is successful in purpose, organization, sentence and language quality, support and development**

- 4 Assignment is very successful
- 3 Assignment is mostly successful
- 2 Assignment is not often successful
- 1 Assignment is not at all successful