

Rubric for Evaluating the Final Research Paper

Final Research Paper

The final research paper is 10-12 pages (3200 – 3850 words, excluding reference list, abstract, and title page) and incorporates feedback from the drafting process.

Content	Elements	Points
	Title Page	
	Abstract and Key Words	/5
	Effectively summarizes research paper (between 130 and 150 words)	
	Lists 3-5 relevant key words	
	Introduction (~1 page)	/5
	Provides appropriate and compelling entry to the topic	
	Clearly articulates the research question(s) and thesis	
	Body (~9-11 pages)	/50
	Presents a well-structured, logically-argued, and cohesive discussion	
	Includes headings that reflect the paper organization	
	Supports all points/arguments with credible and relevant evidence and cites definitions of key terms/ideas as applicable	
	Synthesizes multiple sources	
	Shows originality, critical thinking, and in-depth, nuanced analysis	
	Conclusion (~up to 1 page)	/8
	Restates main points and addresses the research question/thesis	
	Comes to logical conclusion from evidence	
	Makes final comment(s)	
	References	/7
	Uses correctly formatted APA in-text citations	
	Includes correctly formatted APA references	
	Contains all and only the cited texts	
	Style	/10
	Entire paper	
	Is polished in tone and style appropriate for an academic audience	
	Uses clear and sophisticated language and variety in sentence structure	
	Mechanics	/5
	Entire paper	
	Is accurate in terms of grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, word choice, and transitionals	
	Format/ Layout	/5
	Entire paper	
	Follows APA page layout (title page, running head, headings, font, etc.)	
	Revision	/5
	Incorporates feedback from the Working Draft and any consultations	
	Total	/100