

Grading Rubric (out of 100 points)

**Thesis (5 points)**

<b>5 points</b>	<b>2 points</b>	<b>0 points</b>
The thesis has a strong, argumentative point of view, is easily identifiable, and also answers the prompt question.	The thesis is a bland statement, easily identifiable and directly addresses the question in the prompt.	The thesis is difficult to find or the thesis is not immediately clear upon reading the paper.

**Argumentation (20 points)**

<b>20 points</b>	<b>15 points</b>	<b>12 points</b>	<b>10 points</b>	<b>0 points</b>
The paper utilizes course material to argue the thesis. The paper evaluates the administration via theories learned in the course.	The paper utilizes course material to argue the thesis. The paper does not utilize the theories to evaluate the administration in an organized, clear manner.	The paper utilizes course material to argue the thesis. The paper does not refer to a theoretical framework in evaluating the administration.	The paper constantly refers to course material, but does not do so in relation to the thesis.	Course material is not integrated in the paper

**Organization (20 points)**

<b>20 points</b>	<b>15 points</b>	<b>12 points</b>	<b>10 points</b>	<b>0 points</b>
The paper is organized in relation to the thesis, is thematically developed, and guides the reader through the paper.	The paper is organized in relation to the thesis, is thematically developed, but occasionally goes off track.	The paper is organized in an arbitrary or topical manner, but stays on track throughout the paper.	The paper is organized by giving the reader an indication of sections or subjects, but does so in a disjointed fashion.	There is no discernable organization to the paper. The paper just moves from section to section without any indication.

**Research Effort & Secondary Sources (20 points)**

<b>20 points</b>	<b>15 points</b>	<b>12 points</b>	<b>10 points</b>	<b>0 points</b>
The paper utilizes relevant books, academic articles, and online resources to make an argument.	The paper utilizes books and online sources to make an argument.	The paper utilizes a majority of online sources to make an argument.	The paper is mostly a historical account of the presidential administration without the analysis of other scholars.	There are few or no indications that the student conducted any research.

**Works Cited (15 points)**

<b>15 points</b>	<b>12 points</b>	<b>9 points</b>	<b>6 points</b>	<b>0 points</b>
The paper consistently and correctly uses in-text citations and references for more than 6 sources; no format inconsistencies.	The paper uses in-text citations and references for 5 sources; there are inconsistencies in format (ie. punctuation)	The paper utilizes 4 sources; works cited is unorganized; there are inconsistencies within the format of the citations.	The paper utilizes less than 3 sources; the material that should be cited is not cited.	There are no references in the paper.

**Technical Competence (10 points)**

<b>10 points</b>	<b>6 points</b>	<b>4 points</b>	<b>2 points</b>	<b>0 points</b>
The final paper has very few minor errors of grammar, spelling, typos, etc.,	The final paper has a number of minor errors, but it is not too distracting.	The final paper has so many minor errors that it is distracting from the content	The final paper has major errors in grammar, spelling, typos, etc.,	The paper is so technically incompetent that it is unreadable.

**Writing Fluency (10 points)**

<b>10 points</b>	<b>6 points</b>	<b>4 points</b>	<b>2 points</b>	<b>0 points</b>
The paper is written in a style that is clear, easy to follow, and interesting.	The paper is well-written with only a few awkward spots.	The paper is able to get its point across, but occasional re-reading is necessary.	The paper is awkwardly written and hard to read; lots of re-reading needed.	The paper is unreadable.

**Automatic Point Deductions**

- Page specification (5 points for every additional or omitted page)
  - Please note that less than a half-page does not constitute a full page.
- Spacing (10 points if not double-spaced)
- Font or font-size (5 points if not Times New Roman, 12-point font)
- Margins (5 points if not 1-inch margins)
- Page numbers (5 points if lacking page numbers)
- Works cited (25 points if works cited is omitted)