**Research Paper Rubric**

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|  | **A (11.1 pts)** | **B (9.88 pts)** | **C (8.8 pts)** | **D (7.67 pts)** | **F (6.56 pts)** |
| **Introduction** | Presents a concise lead-in to the report. | Presents a somewhat concise lead-in to the report. | Gives too much information—more like a summary. | Gives very little information. | Does not give any information about what to expect in the report. |
| **Purpose/****Problem** | The paper clearly and accurately relates contemporary and controversial issues in nutrition.  | The paper is mostly clear and accurate and relates contemporary and controversial issues in nutrition.  | The paper is mostly accurate but does not clearly relate contemporary and controversial issues in nutrition.  | The paper has inaccuracies and does not always clearly relate contemporary and controversial issues in nutrition.  | The paper is mostly inaccurate and does not relate contemporary and controversial issues in nutrition.  |
| **Content** | The writer provides facts and quotations from a variety of sources. Facts and ideas are either expressed in the writer’s words or else completely and correctly documented. The body of the paper supports the stated purpose or problem and is exhibits unity and coherence. | The writer provides facts and quotations from several sources. Facts and ideas are either expressed in the writer’s words or else documented. The body of the paper supports the stated purpose or problem, and it usually exhibits unity and coherence. | The writer provides facts and quotations from more than one source. Facts and ideas are not always documented or expressed in the writer’s words. The body of the report lacks real unity and coherence, although most details are somewhat related to the topic. | The writer provides a mixture of opinions, facts and statements. Facts and ideas are often not expressed in the writer’s words or else they lack documentation. The body of the report lacks unity and coherence, and may be difficult to understand. | The writer provides a mixture of opinions and inaccurate facts and statements. Facts and ideas are not expressed in the writer’s words or else they lack documentation. The body of the report lacks unity and coherence, and is difficult to understand. |
| **Research Element** | The writer must used all 5+ references at least once in the paper and be properly cited. At least 3 of the references must be from a credible Research Study. | The writer used and included at least 4 references; with 3 being from credible Research Studies. | The writer used and included 3-4 references; with 2-3 being from credible Research Studies.  | The writer used and included 1-3 references; with 0-2 being from credible Research Studies.  | The writer did not use references cited in Bibliography within the body of the paper.  |
| **Conclusion** | Presents a logical explanation for findings and addresses the issues outlined in the body of the paper. | Presents a logical explanation for findings and addresses most of the issues outlined in the body of the paper. | Presents a somewhat logical explanation for findings and addresses some of the issues outlined in the body of the paper. | Presents explanations that are not always logical for findings and does not always address some of the issues outlined in the body of the paper. | Does not present logical explanations for findings and does not address some of the issues outlined in the body of the paper. |
| **Bibliography/Source List** | Includes a complete and correct bibliography or source list of at least 5 sources.  | Includes a complete and correct bibliography or source list of at least 4 sources. | Includes an incomplete or incorrect bibliography or source list of at least 3 sources. | Includes an incomplete or incorrect bibliography or sources list of 2 or less sources. | The report may not include a bibliography or source list, or this may be incomplete or incorrect. |
| **Grammar & Spelling** | There are no errors in mechanics, usage, grammar, or spelling. Word choice is precise and appropriate for the audience. | There are few errors in mechanics, usage, grammar, or spelling. Word choice is precise and appropriate for the audience. | There are minor errors in mechanics, usage, grammar, or spelling. Word choice is usually appropriate for the audience. | There are numerous errors in mechanics, usage, grammar, or spelling. Word choice is not always appropriate for the audience. | Numerous errors in mechanics, usage, grammar, or spelling may hinder comprehension. Word choice shows little understanding of the audience. |
| **Length of paper** | 5+ pages double spaced, not counting the cover page and Bibliography. | 4 pages double spaced, not counting the cover page and Bibliography. | 3 pages double spaced, not counting the cover page and Bibliography. | 2 pages double spaced, not counting the cover page and Bibliography. | 0-1 page double spaced, not counting the cover page and Bibliography. |
| **Timeliness** | Report handed in on time. | Report handed in up to two days late. | Report handed in up to one week late. | Report handed in more than one week late. | Report not handed in. |