Physics 310 – Essay Scoring Rubric

Your essays in this course will be evaluated using the following scoring rubric. Please note that not all dimensions will always be applicable to every essay. Some might be marked not applicable, but this will rarely occur.

	0 points	1 point	2 points	3 points	Score
Title &	Title only; no abstract	Abstract rambling,	Abstract rambling,	Abstract concise,	
Abstract Page	provided or	imprecise and not	imprecise or not	comprehensive,	
(addend)	inappropriate.	comprehensive; on	comprehensive; on	clearly communicates	
,		separate page with	separate page with	nature of essay's	
		title.	title.	contents; on separate	
				page with title.	
Organization	Thesis statement,	Has some of the	Has all the essential	Thesis statement,	
(addend)	introduction, body	essential components	components, but is	introduction, body,	
	and close essentially	but is disorganized;	disorganized; moves	and close clearly	
	indistinguishable;	no real movement	generally from	discernable; essay	
	mostly specific	from generalities to	generalities to the	moves regularly from	
	information with few	specifics.	specifics.	generalities to	
	generalities.	•	•	specifics.	
Writing Style	Too familiar (e.g.,	Mixed style; mostly	Mixed style; mostly	Suitable for journal	
(addend)	repeated use of	too familiar; some-	professional; some-	publication with a	
	"you"); rambling	what professional,	what too familiar;	few minor revisions;	
	commentary; poorly	and/or poorly	well formulated	well formulated	
	formulated	formulated	paragraphs.	paragraphs.	
	paragraphs.	paragraphs.			
Professionalism	Unprofessional; no	Less professional;	More professional;	Very profession;	
(addend)	evidence of	some material of	material mostly of	clear evidence of use	
	significant use of	substance, but lots of	substance, but	of several references;	
	references; provides	personal	includes some	material of	
	mostly general	commentary; could	opinions; could be	substantive value;	
	commentary and	be enhanced	enhanced somewhat;	research based; no	
	personal opinions;	considerably; shows	shows more "deep	needed improvement;	
	strong evidence of	more "surface	learning" than	strong evidence of	
	"surface learning"	learning" than "deep	"surface learning"	"deep learning"	
		learning"			
Argumentation	Arguments are not	Arguments are not	Most arguments are	All arguments are	
(addend)	cogent, concise, and	always cogent,	cogent, concise, and	cogent, concise, and	
	relevant; few argu-	concise, and relevant;	relevant; a small	relevant; many	
	ments are given and	many arguments are	number of arguments	arguments provided	
	they are poorly	given but they are	provided and all are	and all are well	
	reasoned, and insuf-	poorly reasoned;	well reasoned; reader	reasoned; arguments	
	ficient to the task.	reader unconvinced.	uncertain.	"win the day."	
Accuracy	Multiple and gross	Multiple minor errors	Minor errors in fact;	No discernable errors	
(addend)	errors in fact; grossly	in fact; poorly drawn	reasonably well	in fact; well-	
	inaccurate	conclusions.	drawn conclusions.	grounded	
	conclusions.			conclusions.	
Citations	Cleary uses others'	Often uses other's	Once or twice uses	Makes appropriate	
(addend)	ideas without making	ideas without making	other's ideas without	use of in-line	
	in-line citations	in-line citations.	making in-line	citations to credit due	
	giving credit due.		citations.	to others.	
Completeness	Addresses full range	Addresses full range	Addresses full range	Addresses full range	
(addend)	of subject matter	of subject matter	of subject matter	of subject matter very	
	poorly.	irregularly.	adequately.	thoroughly.	
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Reasonably well written, no grammatical and for punctuation errors; a number of major and minor grammatical, and/or punctuation errors; a number of major and minor grammatical, and/or punctuation errors; a number of major and minor grammatical, and/or punctuation errors; a number of major and minor grammatical, and/or punctuation errors; a grammatical, and/or punctuation errors; a grammatical, and/or punctuation errors; a grammatical or punctuation errors; a grammatical or promoting grammatical or punctuation errors; and proof reading, evidence of regular revision & proofing. Format & Gross violation of sexay format (addend) Fails to meet two or with font, font size, line spacing, and border areas; poor print quality. References (addend) Required 6-8 page (addend) Required 6-8 page (addend) Required 6-8 page (addend) Required 6-8 page (a) (3.5X) Somplete pages (0.17X); 2 complete pages (0.50X) Complete pages (0.		0 points	1 point	2 points	3 points	Score
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