

# CS 4800 Writing Assessment Rubric for Final Technical Report

(Similar to CS 4100 with a few modifications: A: 32-36; B: 23-31; C and below: <= 22)

Criteria	1	2	3	4	Score
Purpose	Purpose or argument is generally unclear.	Purpose or argument is not consistently clear throughout.	Writing has a clear purpose or argument, but may sometimes digress from it.	Purpose or argument is readily apparent to reader.	
Written Content	Central purpose is not clearly identified. Analysis is vague or not evident. Reader is confused or may be misinformed.	Information supports a central purpose at times. Analysis is basic or general. Reader gains few insights.	Information provides reasonable support for central purpose. Displays evidence of a basic analysis of a significant topic. Reader gains some insights or understanding.	Balanced presentation of relevant information that clearly supports a central purpose. Shows a thoughtful, in-depth analysis of a significant topic. Reader gains important insights.	
Organization	Writing is not logically organized. Frequently, ideas fail to make sense together. The reader cannot identify a line of reasoning or logical progression of ideas and loses interest.	Writing is arranged logically, although occasionally ideas fail to make sense together. The reader is fairly clear about what the writer intends.	Ideas are arranged logically and are usually clearly linked to each other. For the most part the reader can follow the line of reasoning.	Ideas are arranged logically, flow smoothly, and are clearly linked to each other. The reader can follow the line of reasoning.	
Tone	Tone is unprofessional and inappropriate.	Tone is not consistently professional or appropriate.	Tone is generally professional and appropriate.	Tone is consistently professional and appropriate.	
Sentence Structure	Errors in sentence structure are frequent enough to be a major distraction to the reader.	Some sentences are awkwardly constructed so that the reader is occasionally distracted.	Sentences are well-phrased with some variety in length and structure. The flow from sentence to sentence is generally smooth.	Sentences are well-phrased and varied in length and structure. The flow smoothly from one to another.	
Grammar, Spelling, Writing mechanics	There are so many errors that meaning is obscured. The reader is confused and stops reading.	The writing has many errors, and the reader is distracted by them.	There are occasional errors, but they don't represent a major distraction or obscure meaning.	The writing is free or almost free of errors.	
Figures and Graphics	Few figures where they would be appropriate. Graphics are generally not supported by the text.	Some figures, but inadequate labeling. Figures somewhat supported by text.	Figures are generally of good quality and supported by the text in most cases.	Figures and graphics are professional quality and both complement and support the text.	
Format	Document does not follow required format. Sections are missing or misplaced.	Document generally follows the required format though with some distracting artifacts (page-breaks, etc.)	Document almost completely follows required format, though one or two errors (e.g. TOC is not completely accurate).	Document is formatted as required, with correct page breaks, adequate space between sections, accurate TOC, no formatting distractions.	
Use and Quality of References	References are seldom cited to support statements. There are virtually no sources that are professionally reliable (where they might be reasonably expected). The reader seriously doubts the value of the material.	Although attributions are occasionally given, many statements seem unsubstantiated. Most references are not from peer-reviewed sources (or not from sources with appropriate reliability for the kind of paper).	Professionally legitimate sources are generally present and attribution is mostly clear and fairly represented. A few references are questionable.	Compelling evidence from professionally legitimate sources is given to support claims. Attribution is clear and fairly represented.	
Score					