

Anthropology Senior Capstone Project Paper RUBRIC – Revised August 2019

Criteria	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Rationale	No clear rationale or a weak rationale for the project	Some rationale presented, begins to motivate the work	Provides and discusses a suitable rationale	Persuasive and creative rationale
Methodological Approach	Not clear what methods were used or why, or an inappropriate methodology	Methodology is generally appropriate and properly executed	Methodology clearly described and justified, well-chosen and appropriate, and well-executed	Creative and sophisticated methods that make new contributions to anthropological approaches
Analysis of Data/Evidence	Draws on little or no evidence, mostly relies on assertions or opinions, or evidence not clearly presented	Some appropriate use of evidence but makes few or simplistic connections, evidence is over- or under-interpreted	Good analysis, makes appropriate connections, evidence is interpreted reasonably	Fully exploits the richness of the data/evidence and new insights are provided in interpretation
Synthetic and Critical Evaluation of Scholarly Work	Does not carry out critical evaluation of scholarly works, or attempts to do so but only reports findings	Carries out some evaluation of scholarly works but may include misunderstandings or miss important elements of cited scholarship	Successfully incorporates critical evaluation of scholarly works in the analysis of anthropological phenomena	Provides new, critical insights on cited scholarship in the original analysis of anthropological phenomena, and makes contribution to the literature
Thesis Argument(s)	Weak, invalid or no argument; perhaps a simple assertion	Some arguments valid and well-supported, some not	Main argument(s) valid, systematic and well-supported	Argument(s) both well-supported and compared to related and conflicting scholarly arguments
Application of Theory to Anthropological Problems	No application of theory in capstone project	Some reference to theory but weak connections made to argument(s), may include misunderstandings or miss important elements of the cited theory	Good use of theory in the development of argument(s) with good connections made and solid understanding of cited theory	Strong use of theory to support original argument(s) and proposes new theory or new ways of approaching existing theories.

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Writing Conventions	Writing contains many errors in spelling, grammar, and/or sentence structure which interfere with comprehension; overall writing style is inappropriate for paper	Frequent errors in spelling, grammar, sentence structure, and/or other writing conventions that distract the reader; does not consistently follow appropriate style and/or format	Paper follows expected conventions for spelling and grammar with few errors; appropriate conventions for style and format used consistently.	Essentially error-free in terms of mechanics; models the style and format appropriate for a professional, academic research paper in a specific sub-discipline of anthropology.
Source Documentation and Citation	Fails to demonstrate thoroughness in documentation and does not cite in expected citation style	Source documentation is incomplete and may not consistently cite in the expected citation style	Demonstrates thoroughness in documenting sources, citing in the expected style; the reader would have little difficulty referring back to cited sources.	Demonstrates exceptional thoroughness in documenting sources (e.g. supplementary endnotes or appendices), citing in the appropriate style; the reader would have no difficulty referring back to cited sources.
Organization of Ideas	Poor organization: ideas do not flow logically from beginning to end, no narrative arc	Weak organization: some flow but it is inconsistent across the paper as a whole; some sections are better organized than others	Good organization: Flow and narrative arc are generally good, not interfering with "following the story"	Excellent organization: Flow and narrative arc are flawlessly smooth and contribute to development of thesis argument(s)