

Assessment Criteria American Politics (ENG4534)

Excellent

1. Answers the question directly and effectively.
2. Answer is convincingly argued
3. Answer exhibits an insightful response to the question
4. Answer is based on wide reading of course materials and original research
5. Demonstrates a commanding conceptual understanding of the issue.
6. Uses a range of examples to support the argument and weighs up and evaluates different specific arguments, distinguishing between them and identifies key issues.
7. Has a very high standard of writing and structure, with few technical errors.

Good

1. Answers the question directly and effectively.
2. Answer is convincingly argued
3. Answer is in response to a range of course materials and original research
4. May be missing a few critical pieces of content or have an argument that is not fully thought out.
5. Is written in clear, accurate prose

Average

1. Indicates a solid, but limited, engagement with the subject, and may be rather mechanical in approach
2. May have a good level of general competency and knowledge, with some use of relevant examples and a limited appreciation of different arguments and interpretations.
3. Might also attempt to present an argument but may offer a reductive or simplistic analysis and/or show elements of repetition or an overly descriptive approach.
4. Writing is readable, even if prone to error.

Poor

1. Lacks focus, and be prone to sweeping unsubstantiated assertions, revealing confusion and errors of fact or interpretation.
2. May only partially answer the question or miss the bigger picture.
3. Might also have bad structure and multiple spelling errors

Unacceptable

1. Failure to address the question
2. Poor or missing argumentation
3. May feature inadequate knowledge and absence of analysis
4. Factual errors

5. Insufficient research and evidence, bad organization and structure, and frequent grammatical and spelling errors.
6. Poor writing and confusing syntax