



Midterm Exam Grading Rubric

ENG 111 & HIS 20 Learning Communities
 Profs. Kate Culkin & Julia Miele Rodas

Writer's Name: _____ Date: _____

		outstanding skills	strong skills	adequate skills	needs to build skills
Reading Comprehension: Essay demonstrates understanding of both assigned readings and responds to the concerns, issues, facts, and research presented in the readings.					
Thesis/Main Idea: Essay goes well beyond summarizing the assigned reading, engaging the material in both assigned readings to take a stand or show the essay writer's own ideas.					
Development & Support: Essay is substantial, developing a single theme or idea through multiple paragraphs using quotations and other evidence from the assigned reading to illustrate and develop the writer's thinking; use of evidence is documented in MLA style.					
Organization: Essay has a clear logic and structure; the introduction lays out the main point or theme of the essay; essay is developed with focused supporting points; each paragraph treats one idea and uses a topic sentence; a conclusion sums up the thesis and supporting points of the essay. The logic of the essay is easy to follow.					
writing mechanics	Fluency: Essay makes effective use of language, using words correctly and skillfully to persuade the reader; essay makes use of transitional words and phrases, vocabulary specific to the course content, and an appropriate degree of formality.				
	Clarity: Writing in the essay is clear and easy to understand with minimal grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.				