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# Grading a Philosophy Essay

Course: Spring 2024 Introduction to Philosophy (PHIL-1301-22003)

Criteria	Superior	Above average	Average	Below average	Unsatisfactory	Unacceptable
Describe, Identify and Explain	5 points 5 Provides clear, accurate and full explanations of each philosophical position.	4 points 4 Provides mostly clear, accurate and full explanations of each philosophical position.	3 points 3 (a) Provides a clear and accurate explanation of one position and a poor explanation of the second position or (b) provides explanations for both positions that are unclear and/or incomplete and/or inaccurate.	2 points (a) Fails to provide an explanation for one of the two theories or (b) provides poor explanations of both positions.	1 point (a) Fails to provide an explanation for one of the two theories and (b) provides a poor explanation for the other position.	0 points 0 The essay on the topic was no essay
Critical thought	5 points 5 Gives coherent and consistent reasoning throughout the essay and a clear and comprehensive explanation of the issue to be considered. Also provides a coherent analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the positions at issue.	4 points 4 Uses generally coherent and consistent reasoning throughout the essay and a clear, but not necessarily comprehensive, explanation of the issue to be considered. Also provides a coherent analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the positions at issue.	3 points 3 Uses some coherent and consistent reasoning that either contains clear weakness in reasoning or fails to explain the issue to be considered. Also fails to provide a coherent analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the positions at issue.	2 points 2 Uses some coherent and consistent reasoning that contains clear weakness in reasoning and fails to explain the issue to be considered. Also, fails to provide a coherent analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the positions at issue.	1 point 1 Uses incoherent and inconsistent reasoning that also fails to explain the issue to be considered. Also fails to provide the strengths and weaknesses of the positions at issue.	0 points 0 The essay on the topic was no essay
Development of personal view	5 points 5 Provides a coherent and well-thought out personal position that is fully defended against a rational, but opposing, position. The assumptions behind your view, and the opposing view, are recognized and analyzed. The impact of your position on your personal life and on your society is explored.	4 points 4 Provides a personal position that is coherent and has some support, but needs a little more thought and is mostly defended against a rational, but opposing, position. The assumptions behind your position, and that of the opposing position, are identified but not analyzed. The impact of one's position on your personal life and on	3 points 3 Provides a personal position that is coherent but has very little support and needs a lot more depth and is not adequately defended against a rational, but opposing, position. The assumptions behind both views are identified, but there is no analysis of these assumptions. There is very little attempt to explore the impact of one's	2 points Provides a personal position that is (a) incoherent or has no support and is not defended against a rational, but opposing, position; or (b) does not identify assumptions behind the position or opposing position; or (c) there is no attempt to explore the impact of one's life and society.	1 point 1 Provides a personal position that has no support, is not defended against a rational, but opposing view, does not identify the assumptions behind the position, and does not make an attempt to explore the impact of one's position on one's own life and society.	0 points 0 The essay on the topic was no position or no essay

		society is explored.	position on one's life and society.			
grid.row3.label	<p>5 points</p> <p>5 Demonstrates graceful use of language by being free from most errors in grammar and mechanics. The essay is well organized and focused. The student uses credible sources to support and inform the content.</p>	<p>4 points</p> <p>4 Demonstrates reasonable facility in the use of language by being free from most errors in grammar and mechanics, however the errors do not impede understanding of the content. The essay is mostly organized and focused. The student uses credible sources to support and inform the content.</p>	<p>3 points</p> <p>Demonstrates adequate facility in the use of language by containing some errors in grammar and/or mechanics, some of which may be serious enough to impede meaning. Also the essay is generally organized and focused with some lapses or the student does not use credible sources to support and inform the content.</p>	<p>2 points</p> <p>2 Demonstrates limited facility in the use of language by containing problems with vocabulary and several errors in grammar and mechanics which do impede understanding. The essay is not organized and contains lapses in focus. Additionally, the student did not use credible sources to support and inform the content.</p>	<p>1 point</p> <p>1 Demonstrates little or no facility in the use of language by containing problems with vocabulary and an unacceptable number of errors in grammar and mechanics. The errors are clearly an impediment to understanding the essay This essay is poorly organized and demonstrates little or no focus and does not utilize credible sources to support and inform the content.</p>	<p>0 points</p> <p>0 The essay on the topic was no evidence of understanding.</p>

Total

**Overall Score**

<p><b>Superior</b> 18 points minimum</p>	<p><b>Above average</b> 14 points minimum</p>	<p><b>Average</b> 10 points minimum</p>	<p><b>Below average</b> 6 points minimum</p>	<p><b>Unsatisfactory</b> 2 points minimum</p>
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