

Course Intro Essay – Rubric (staple to the front of your draft)

Student: _____ Section: _____

Title	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good title is engaging, accurate, avoids clichés, and is not too long.

Structure	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good essay includes an introduction and a conclusion; a strong/good essay presents a logical flow of ideas and avoids straying or meandering; a strong/good paragraph remains focused on a single main idea, and all sentences within a paragraph support its main idea.

Use of technical vocabulary	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good essay uses discipline-specific vocabulary appropriately and accurately.

Written skill	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good essay is well-organized and generally contains correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling; a strong/good essay demonstrates appropriate and effective word choice and style; in a strong/good essay, the prose is easy to follow, precise, and clear; a strong/good essay avoids both vagueness and redundancy; a good/strong essay avoids inaccuracies; a strong/good essay analyzes rather than summarizes.

Requirements and formatting	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good essay adheres to the requirements of prompt (length, format, number of examples, and kinds of examples).

Introduction	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good introduction frames the essay's topic in a manner that is insightful, clear, and engaging.

Prompt Question #1: Critical Thinking	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good essay addresses this question in a way that is insightful rather than vague or superficial; a strong/good essay goes beyond the superficial by thoughtfully incorporating comparison, contrast, and/or synthesis; a strong/good essay addresses the implication of the ideas under consideration.

Prompt Question #1: Support	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good essay uses specific examples to support this prompt question that are interesting, relevant, specific, sufficient, and directly connected to the main idea; strong/good examples support your argument explicitly; any musical examples are accurately described.

Prompt Question #2: Critical Thinking	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good essay addresses this question in a way that is insightful rather than vague or superficial; a strong/good essay goes beyond the superficial by thoughtfully incorporating comparison, contrast, and/or synthesis; a strong/good essay addresses the implication of the ideas under consideration.

Prompt Question #2: Support	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good essay uses specific examples to support this prompt question that are interesting, relevant, specific, sufficient, and directly connected to the main idea; strong/good examples support your argument explicitly; any musical examples are accurately described.

Prompt Question #3: Critical Thinking	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good essay addresses this question in a way that is insightful rather than vague or superficial; a strong/good essay goes beyond the superficial by thoughtfully incorporating comparison, contrast, and/or synthesis; a strong/good essay addresses the implication of the ideas under consideration.

Prompt Question #3: Support	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good essay uses specific examples to support this prompt question that are interesting, relevant, specific, sufficient, and directly connected to the main idea; strong/good examples support your argument explicitly; any musical examples are accurately described.

Prompt Question #4: Critical Thinking	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good essay addresses this question in a way that is insightful rather than vague or superficial; a strong/good essay goes beyond the superficial by thoughtfully incorporating comparison, contrast, and/or synthesis; a strong/good essay addresses the implication of the ideas under consideration.

Prompt Question #4: Support	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good essay uses specific examples to support this prompt question that are interesting, relevant, specific, sufficient, and directly connected to the main idea; strong/good examples support your argument explicitly; any musical examples are accurately described.

Conclusion	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good conclusion broadens the scope of the essay by relating its ideas to other topics, new questions, or contexts; a strong/good/ok conclusion is not a repetition of the introduction.

Revision (final draft only)	Strong	Good	O.K.	Weak	Points: ____/10
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A strong/good essay effectively incorporates suggestions for revision and editing. A strong/good final draft demonstrates improvement compared with the first draft. A strong/good reflective writing clearly states the author's editing intentions, which are apparent in the essay itself.

Total points ____/160

Letter grade: ____