

### MAGS Essay Grading Rubric

| Grade                                                     | Development of Thesis in Response to Essay Prompt                                                                                                                                                                                              | Support for Argument(s)                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Writing Style                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Exceeds Expectations</i>                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Addresses all parts of the question directly, clearly, and completely</li> <li>-Argument(s) are well structured, relevant, and organized</li> </ul>                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Engages with assigned materials substantially</li> <li>-Supports conclusions with specific, relevant examples or empirically/data-derived justifications</li> </ul>                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Uses acceptable style and grammar (0-2 errors)</li> <li>-Sentence structure is clear and concise</li> </ul>                                              |
| <i>Meets Expectations</i>                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Addresses the question, but indirectly, ambiguously and/or incompletely</li> <li>-Argument(s) are somewhat well structured and organized; indicate only minor disorganization</li> </ul>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Engages with assigned materials, with limits</li> <li>-Supports conclusions with data or examples, but support is incomplete, irrelevant, or partial</li> </ul>                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Uses acceptable style and grammar (more than 2 errors)</li> <li>-Sentence structure is somewhat clear and concise</li> </ul>                             |
| <i>Approaches or Otherwise Does not Meet Expectations</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Doesn't directly address the question</li> <li>-Doesn't demonstrate accurate understanding of question</li> <li>-Mistaken application of course concepts</li> <li>-Is not organized clearly</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Lacks sustained engagement w/ assigned materials</li> <li>-Little evidence to support response to question</li> <li>-Might violate the course academic integrity agreement in some way</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Many errors in grammar and style</li> <li>-Sentence structure is not clear and concise</li> <li>-Does not comply with word count requirements</li> </ul> |