

## Paper Grading Standards

Grade	Style	Thesis	Argumentation	Use of evidence
<b>F</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Paper is not intelligible.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No thesis.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Points are asserted without argument.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No evidence is used.</li><li>There are no references to the sources of evidence.</li></ul>
<b>D</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Paper contains numerous or major grammatical errors.</li><li>Paper contains many spelling or punctuation errors.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Thesis is not stated in the introduction.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Arguments are not related to thesis.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Evidence is not related to argument.</li><li>Evidence is misinterpreted.</li><li>Evidence is not cited adequately.</li></ul>
<b>C</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Paper contains some grammatical errors.</li><li>Paper uses informal or nonstandard English.</li><li>Paper contains occasional misspellings or punctuation errors</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Thesis is obvious or general.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Argument in each paragraph is clear but overall structure is not, <i>or</i></li><li>Overall structure is clear but the argument in paragraphs is not.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Evidence is only vaguely related to argument.</li><li>Evidence is stated but not analyzed to show relation to argument.</li><li>Contrary evidence is ignored.</li></ul>
<b>B</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Paper is written in correct standard English.</li><li>Paper is correctly spelled and punctuated.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Thesis is focused and clear.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Overall argument and argument in each paragraph is clear and convincing.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Evidence is appropriate to the argument and analyzed to show its appropriateness.</li><li>Contrary evidence is considered and refuted.</li></ul>
<b>A</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Paper is written in clear, graceful standard English.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Thesis is original and goes beyond lecture and readings.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Argumentation is especially acute and appropriate to the thesis.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Most appropriate evidence is used.</li><li>Most damaging contrary evidence is considered and refuted.</li></ul>

A paper that is plagiarized will automatically receive an F.  
Plagiarism is also grounds for failing the course.

If you do not understand these criteria, talk to Prof. Ogilvie *before* you begin to write your paper.