

HIST 246 Blog Post Grading Rubric

Blog posts will be evaluated for reading comprehension, analysis, and clarity/style. Your **reading comprehension** score will reflect how effectively and fully you demonstrated that you completed the assigned reading and understood the prompt/task. Your **analysis** score reflects how well you went beyond merely describing or summarizing a text or task, and thoughtfully reflected on (analyzed) the text or task. There are many ways you can “go beyond” and be analytical in your response: by making an argument, by considering and evaluating alternative points of view, by making connections between the assigned text and other texts or topics we’ve discussed in class, by evaluating evidence, or by considering the questions “how?” “why?” and “so what?” Your **clarity/style** score reflects the coherency and clarity of your post. Grammatical errors, spelling errors, and unclear writing will detract from your score in this category.

Each category will be evaluated on a GPA or “4.0” scale. Remarkable achievement in the categories of reading comprehension and analysis will occasionally be awarded a score of 4.3 (or “A+”). A score of 4.3 represents exceptional work that truly goes above and beyond the assigned task, and is strikingly original.

Reading comprehension – 40%

- 4.3:** shows remarkable command of course material
- 4.0:** shows thorough comprehension of assigned text
- 3.0:** shows some minor areas of incomplete comprehension of assigned text and/or assigned task/prompt
- 2.0:** shows multiple or more significant areas of incomplete comprehension of assigned text and/or task/prompt
- 1.0:** shows only a cursory understanding of the reading and/or prompt, and/or is too brief to evaluate how well the student comprehended the text or task.

Analysis – 40%

- 4.3:** fully responds to the prompt/task in an original way; contains strikingly original or insightful analysis
- 4.0:** fully responds to the prompt/task; contains thoughtful analysis that provides reasons and evidence
- 3.0:** analytical, but a few points lack originality or evidence
- 2.0:** analytical, but significantly lacks originality or evidence
- 1.0:** an attempt at analysis, but entirely lacking in originality or evidence

Clarity/Style – 20%

- 4 points:** contains almost no grammatical or spelling errors, and is clearly written
- 3 points:** contains a few grammatical or spelling errors and/or moments of unclear writing
- 2 points:** contains several grammatical or spelling errors, and/or moments of unclear writing
- 1 point:** contains too many grammatical or spelling errors, and/or moments of unclear writing to be readable

Please contact Mercy Harper at mmh3@rice.edu for any questions about the grading rubric.