

## ***Grading Scheme***

Student essays are graded on their knowledge and understanding of materials taught in the course. Students do not have to agree with the instructor about contentious issues. However they must argue clearly and with evidence.

Essays which address issues not covered in the course get no credit.

87 and over: very well written, exactly on topic but examining the issues in a fresh, creative and challenging manner.

84 to 86: well written; creatively draws different strands together.

80 to 83: well written, well organized; some original thought

77 to 79: well written with correct grammar.

Has clearly mastered course materials.

74 to 76: as above but somewhat less well written/organized

70 to 73: knows course materials but communicates this ineffectively

67 to 69: obvious gaps in understanding of course materials and evidence

64 to 66: as just above; little or no citing of evidence

60 to 63: addresses course materials but fails to understand them

57 to 59: poorly written; obvious problems in understanding course materials. 54 to 56: very poor writing and grammar;

little evidence that the student attended this course

50 to 53: very little evidence that the student attended this course.

45 to 49: out to lunch, rambling or ranting, off topic

Less than 45: incoherent, rambling or ranting, off topic

Zero: no evidence of coherent thought; completely off topic