ECO 209 – Term Paper Grading Rubric

Criterion	Excellent	Good	Competent	Problematic	Pts
Introduction	**[4-5]** • Grabs readers' attention. • Sets up thesis statement. • Gives accurate and concise representation of main arguments. • Right length (about 15% of the paper)	**[3-4]** • Thesis statement not attempted or hard to identify. • Gives accurate and concise representation of main arguments. • Right length (about 15% of the paper)	**[2-3]** • No thesis statement. • Gives mostly accurate representation of main arguments. • Right length (about 15% of the paper)	**[0-2]** • No thesis statement. • Gives mostly inaccurate representation of main arguments. • Too long and includes many arguments not addressed in the analysis.	**[5]**
Economic Analysis	**[25-30]** • Demonstrates independent thinking and critical reasoning. • Uses evidence to refute/support arguments. • Is able to recognize the limitations of the tools and makes a clear conclusion. • Uses appropriately the tools studied in class (or in other courses) to perform a complete analysis. • Makes sensible inferences. • Uses at least 5 *academic* references.	**[21-24]** • Shows some critical reasoning but mostly paraphrases sources or class materials. • Has trouble making clear conclusions and highlighting strengths and weaknesses. • Uses tools studied in class (or in other courses) to perform the analysis but some elements may be missing. • Uses 5 *academic* references.	**[16-20]** • Presents the evidence but with little analysis. • Interpretation of reviewed sources somehow confusing. • Uses class tools with significant conceptual errors. • No clear identification or understanding of the reviewed sources' arguments. • Uses tools studied in class (or in other courses), but important elements are missing and/or incorrect. • Uses only 4 *academic* references.	**[0-15]** • No critical reasoning, incomplete or incoherent analysis. • Does not use appropriate tools for the analysis. • Uses less than 4 *academic* references.	**[30]**

	[8-10]	[6-7]	[4-5]	[0-3]	[10]
Exposition	• Paragraphs well organized by thought and flow logical. • Smooth transition between ideas. • Clear and easy to read sentences. • No unnecessary repetitions. • Economic terms and concepts clearly explained. • Sources are referenced and cited correctly.	• Paragraphs not always organized by thoughts but flow mostly logical. • Mostly smooth transition between ideas. • Some long, confused sentences. • Some minor unnecessary repetitions. • Some economic terms and concepts used without clear explanation. • Sources are referenced and mostly cited correctly.	• Paragraphs organization and flow needs work. • Some sentence/word problems make it difficult to understand reasoning. • Economic terms used frequently without attempt to explain them. • Sources are mostly referenced and cited correctly. • Lengthy quotations from article instead of concise summary if needed.	• Significant sentence/word problems make it difficult to understand reasoning. • Not completely written in words and paragraphs (e.g., bullet points, equations, graphs). • Sources are referenced and cited incorrectly.	
	[4-5]	**[3]**	**[2]**	**[0-1]**	**[5]**
Conclusion	• Briefly summarizes the analysis accurately. • Indicates that initial thesis statement has been demonstrated.	• Attempts to summarize the analysis. • Some indications that initial thesis statement has been demonstrated.	• None to minimal attempt to summarize the analysis. • Too long and focusing on issues not discussed in the analysis.	• No proper conclusion (summary not attempted).	