GOVT Paper Rubric (TOTAL: 100 points):

Criteria	Early Thinker	Beginning Thinker	Practicing Thinker	Advancing Thinker	Points
Control of	2 points	5 points	8 points	10 points	10
Syntax & Mechanics (WC) Paper Format	Wrote less than 3 pages for the actual body of the paper. Did not use APA template. Template has more than 4 formatting errors (i.e. uses incorrect margin specifications, multiple spaces between paragraphs to lengthen paper, centers entire paper).	Wrote between 3-5 full pages for the actual body of the paper. Used APA Template, and has less than 4 formatting errors.	Wrote between 3- 5 full pages for the actual body of the paper. Used APA Template and has less than 2 formatting errors.	Wrote between 3-5 full pages for the actual body of the paper. Used APA Template. Template has no formatting errors: correct title page, fonts, margins, double-spacing, no spacing errors, correct header, title page, and reference page.	
Control of Syntax & Mechanics (WC) Grammar, Spelling, Punctuation, and Capitalization	2 points Student does not use correct grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation. Multiple errors found in submitted assignment.	5 points Student assignment contains some incorrect grammar, spelling punctuation, and capitalization.	8 points Student assignment contains few instances of incorrect grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.	10 points Student uses correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.	10
Introduction Context & Purpose of Writing (WC) Student's Position (CT) Topic Selection (SR/I&S)	1 point Specific position is not stated in the introduction. Omits introductory paragraph.	2 points In the introductory paragraph, specific position is not clearly stated or the thesis or is too simplistic – attempt was made but it is very hard to tell what student is going to write about in paper.	3 points In the introductory paragraph the paper overview is clear but it does not fully take into account the complexities of the issues / topic that will be discussed.	5 points In the introductory paragraph, specific position is stated and information is given that demonstrates the student has taken into account the complexities of the issues.	5
Paper Contents Explanation of Issues (CT) Existing	10 points Varieties of perspectives are not presented or the presentation is inaccurate.	20 points Varieties of perspectives are acknowledged and accurate, but presentation is shallow	30 points Varieties of perspectives are acknowledged, but details are not fully presented.	40 points Variety of perspectives are acknowledged and presented accurately with full, detailed	40

Knowledge,	Few concepts and	and simplistic.	Most key concepts and	information.	
Research &	explanations addressed in a		explanations are addressed in		
Views Included (SR/I&S)	context-rich manner. Paper exceeds more than	Some key concepts and explanations are addressed in a somewhat organized,	an organized, context-rich manner.	Key concepts and explanations are addressed in a comprehensive, organized,	
Analysis (SR/I&S) Content Development (WC) Design Process (SR/I&S)	30% direct quotes. Topic viewpoints and issues are stated without clarification. Little analysis to compare and contrast primary and secondary source information. Sources are not used to their full capability. Sources are not placed in a logical place in the paper to show thorough analysis – a more thoughtful presentation of sources would have shown better analysis and understanding.	context-rich manner. Paper contains no more than 30% direct quotes. Topic viewpoints and issues are stated but descriptions are ambiguous and vague. Some analysis to compare and contrast primary and secondary source information. Sources could be used in a more effective manner.	Paper contains no more than 20% direct quotes. Topic viewpoints and issues are stated and defined so that understanding is not seriously impeded by omissions. Adequate analysis to compare and contrast primary and secondary source information. Sources are properly replied upon, placed, and used.	context-rich manner. Paper contains no more than 20% direct quotes. Topic viewpoints and issues are clearly stated and defined with all relevant information necessary for full understanding. Complete analysis to compare and contrast primary and secondary source information.	
Conclusion (CT, SR/I&S) Limitations & Implications (SR/I&S) Influence of Context & Assumptions (CT)	1 point Poor summary of information. Conclusion is inconsistently tied to the information presented.	2 points Shallow summary of information. Conclusion is tied to information presented but does not elaborate to tie in information presentation in paper to show understanding of material.	3 points Good summary of information. Conclusion is logical and related to paper, but is weakly tied to evidence presented in the paper.	5 points Excellent summary of information. Conclusion and related outcomes are logical and reflect student's informed evaluation of information based on evidence and perspectives included in the paper.	5

Evidence (CT,	5 points	10 points	20 points	30 points	30
WC) References	Complete, accurate APA citations for a minimum of 2 sources that meet assignment criteria.	Complete, accurate APA citations for a minimum of 3 sources that meet assignment criteria.	Complete, accurate APA citations for a minimum of 4 sources that meet assignment criteria.	Complete, accurate APA citations for a minimum of 4 sources that meet assignment criteria.	
	Less than 70% of the in-text citations are complete and accurate.	70% of the in-text citations are complete and accurate.	80% of the in-text citations are complete and accurate.	All in-text citations are complete and accurate.	
Total					10