**Limited Government and Balanced Budget Research Paper Rubric**

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| **Criteria** | **Levels of Achievement** | | | | |
| **Content**  **(70%)** | **Advanced**  **92-100%** | **Proficient**  **84-91%** | **Developing**  **1-83%** | **Not Present** | **Total** |
| **Content** | **46 to 50 points:**   * All key elements of the assignment are covered thoroughly and in a substantive way. Student provides a well-researched, fully developed analysis of each element of the assignment. * Content is thoroughly, comprehensively, accurate, and exhibits a nuanced rather than superficial understanding of the terms and concepts assigned. * Major points are thoroughly stated clearly and are supported by appropriate professional and scholarly literature and/or logic. Student employs sound, reasoned discussion, description, explanation, and evaluation of assigned terms and concepts.   . | **42 to 45.5 points:**   * Most key elements of the assignment are covered and in a substantive way. Student provides a mostly developed analysis of each element of the assignment. * Most content is comprehensively, accurate, and exhibits an adequate understanding of the terms and concepts assigned. * Most points are adequately stated and are supported by appropriate professional and scholarly literature and/or logic. Student mostly employs sound, reasoned discussion, description, explanation, and evaluation of assigned terms and concepts.   . | **1 to 41.5 points:**   * Inadequate coverage of key elements of the assignment. Student inadequately provides a fully developed analysis of each element of the assignment. * Content is inadequate and not presented comprehensively, accurately, or exhibits an adequate understanding of the terms and concepts assigned. * Major points are inadequately stated clearly and are not supported by appropriate professional and scholarly literature and/or logic. Student inadequately employs sound, reasoned discussion, description, explanation, and evaluation of assigned terms and concepts.   . | **0 points**  Not present |  |
| **Development** | **36.5 to 40 points:**   * Includes meaningful and thorough use of source material and analytical reasoning to elaborate upon the topics or themes. * Research is thorough and timely for the topic. * Thoroughly includes the required quality and quantity of cited sources to support positions. * The context and purpose of the writing is thorough and clear. | **33 to 36 points:**   * Mostly includes meaningful and adequate use of source material and analytical reasoning to elaborate upon the topics or themes. * Research is adequate and timely for the topic. * Adequately includes the required quality and quantity of cited sources to support positions. * The context and purpose of the writing is adequate and clear. | **1 to 32.5 points:**   * Includes inadequate use of source material and applies very little analytical reasoning to elaborate upon the topics or themes. * Research is inadequate and not timely for the topic. * Inadequately includes the required quality and quantity of cited sources to support positions. * The context and purpose of the writing is inadequate and vague. | **0 points**  Not present |  |
| **Organization** | **14 to 15 points:**   * The introduction provides sufficient and thorough background on the topic and previews major points. * Ideas flow in a logical and thorough sequence. * The structure of the paper is clear, thorough and easy to follow. All necessary aspects of the assignment as described in the instructions are clearly identifiable and adequately addressed. * Paragraph transitions are both present, thorough and logical, and direct the flow of thought throughout the paper. * Paper is organized into a discussion flowing thoroughly from concept/term to concept/term and includes sufficient introductory, conclusory, and connecting mechanics to make the assignment a research paper, rather than mere a list of terms. | **12.5 to 13.5 points:**   * The introduction provides sufficient and adequate background on the topic and previews major points. * Most ideas flow in a logical and adequate sequence. * The structure of the paper is mostly adequate, clear, and easy to follow. Most necessary aspects of the assignment as described in the instructions are adequately identifiable and adequately addressed. * Paragraph transitions are mostly present, adequately, and logically, and direct the flow of thought throughout the paper. * Paper is mostly organized into a discussion flowing from concept/term to concept/term and includes adequate introductory, conclusory, and connecting mechanics to make the assignment a research paper, rather than mere a list of terms. | **1 to 12 points:**   * The introduction inadequately provides background on the topic and previews major points. * Ideas do not flow in an inadequate sequence. * The structure of the paper is inadequate, and not easy to follow. All necessary aspects of the assignment as described in the instructions are not identifiable and inadequately addressed. * Paragraph transitions are inadequately presented and lacks a direct flow of thought throughout the paper. * Paper is not organized into a discussion and inadequately flows from concept/term to concept/term and presents an inadequate introductory, conclusory, and connecting mechanics to make the assignment a research paper. | **0 points**  Not present |  |
| **Structure (30%)** | **Advanced**  **92-100%** | **Proficient**  **84-91%** | **Developing**  **1-83%** | **Not Present** | **Total** |
| **Format/APA** | **19 to 20 points:**   * The paper includes title page, reference page, and 5–7 full pages of content. * The paper is thoroughly organized effectively, uses headings and subheadings and uses reader-friendly aids, (e.g., section summaries, tables of contents, indices, appendices, etc.) as appropriate. * The reference page(s) contains complete, properly formatted citations in current APA format for all support utilized. * The paper follows current APA format guidelines. * The paper is written in 12-pt Times New Roman font, is double-spaced, and has 1” margins. The work is original, giving credit to all borrowed ideas and quotations. | **17 to 18.5 points:**   * The paper includes title page, reference page, and mostly 5–7 full pages of content. * The paper is mostly adequately organized effectively, uses headings and subheadings and uses reader-friendly aids, (e.g., section summaries, tables of contents, indices, appendices, etc.) as appropriate. * The reference page(s) contains mostly complete, properly formatted citations in current APA format for all support utilized. The paper follows current APA format guidelines. * The paper is mostly written in 12-pt Times New Roman font, is double-spaced, and has 1” margins. The work is mostly original, giving credit to all borrowed ideas. | **1 to 16.5 points:**   * The paper does not include and/or title page, reference page, and lacks 5–7 full pages of content. * The paper lacks effective use of headings and subheadings and uses reader-friendly aids, (e.g., section summaries, tables of contents, indices, appendices, etc.) as appropriate. * The reference page(s) is incomplete, improperly formatted citations in current APA format. * The paper does not follow current APA format guidelines. * The paper is not written in 12-pt Times New Roman font, lacks double-line spacing, and lacks 1” margins. The work is not original, and lacks giving credit to all borrowed ideas. | **0 points**  Not present |  |
| **Grammar/**  **Punctuation/**  **Spelling** | **14 to 15 points:**   * Rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed. * Spelling is correct. | **12.5 to 13.5 points:**   * Most rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed. * Most spelling is correct. | **1 to 12 points:**   * Inadequate rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed. * Minimal spelling is correct. | **0 points**  Not present |  |
| **Readability**  **/Style** | **9.25 to 10 points:**   * Sentences are complete, clear, and concise. * Sentences are well-constructed with consistently strong and varied structure. * Sentence transitions are present and direct the flow of thought. * Words used are precise and unambiguous. * The paper employs authoritative, persuasive, statesmanlike voice. | **8.5 to 9 points:**   * Most sentences are complete, clear, and concise. * Most sentences are well-constructed with consistently strong and varied structure. * Most sentence transitions are present and direct the flow of thought. * Most words used are precise and unambiguous. * The paper mostly employs   authoritative, persuasive,  statesmanlike voice. | **1 to 8.25 points:**   * Few sentences are complete, clear, and concise. * Few sentences are well-constructed with consistently strong and varied structure. * Few sentence transitions are present and direct the flow of thought. * Few words used are precise and unambiguous. * The paper poorly employs   authoritative, persuasive,  statesmanlike voice. | **0 points**  Not present |  |
| **Professor**  **Comments:** |  | | | **Total** | **/150** |