## Research Paper 2<sup>nd</sup> Draft UP Research Writing Rubric

Your Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_ / 32 points

## **Focus**

Excellent	Good	Average	Low
4 points	3 points	2 points	1 point
Specific <b>argumentative</b> thesis and direction	Readers can understand the main argument, but your	There is a main topic, but the paper doesn't always stick to	There is no clear focal topic for the paper; the paper may
through the entire paper, and the topic fits the length of the assignment.	paper could be more specific. The controlling idea of the paper helps guide the reader,	it, and may be too broad in scope. The argument makes broad claims, but not in	wander through ideas. A reader may have to ask you to clarity main ideas. The
The paper addresses the topic in detail, but not at length.	but your topic could be narrower. The paper goes into too much or too little detail.	enough depth to address the issue completely.	focus of the paper may be divided, or it may be too broad.

## Content

Excellent	Good	Average	Low
4 points	3 points	2 point	1 point
The paper fully explains	The main ideas are	Readers can identify the main	The paper has few details to
ideas, using plenty of	explained clearly. However,	ideas of the paper. Key points	explain your ideas. Ideas
details and examples.	the paper doesn't use enough	have not been explained, or	may not be well developed,
There is a variety of	details to explore the topic.	the paper presents vague or	or may be limited. However,
support, and the reasons	Claims that are made are	general examples.	not all the required parts of
provided develop the	broad, but are supported by		the assignment have been
thesis statement and	the paper.		completed.
argument.			

Argumentation

Excellent	Good	Average	Low
4 points	3 points	2 point	1 point
The paper uses a variety of	The paper makes good use of	The paper has the basic	It is difficult for readers to
signal phrases and	signal phrases to indicate	elements of argumentation,	tell if the paper is making an
argumentative structures,	arguments,	including a counterargument	argument or if it is
including arguments,	counterarguments and	and <b>rebuttal</b> . Signal phrases	explaining an idea or
counterarguments, and	rebuttals throughout. The	may be limited, but the	opinion. Key elements of
rebuttals to support the	paper avoids bias and	essence of argument is	argument are lacking or
thesis. The paper presents	presents a fair argument.	present.	missing entirely.
a complex and thoughtful			
argument without bias.			

## Organization

Excellent	Good	Average	Low
4 points	3 points	2 point	1 point
It is always easy to follow the organization of your paper. Your introduction and thesis guide the reader into the topic. Your conclusion summarizes your ideas and leaves the reader thinking about the topic.	Your ideas are usually well organized, though there may be one part that doesn't connect well with the rest. You have an introduction and conclusion, but one or both of these are brief or do not keep the reader's attention.	Parts of your paper are organized, but other parts are not. In some parts you jump around from one point to another without a clear connection. Your introduction and conclusion may be too general or too brief.	You do not follow a clear plan in discussing your ideas. A reader finds it difficult to understand the connection between ideas. You may not have an introduction and/or conclusion.

Research/ Support

Excellent	Good	Average	Low
4 points	3 points	2 point	1 point
The paper uses a variety of sources that support the argument. Paraphrase, summary and quotations are incorporated into the paper as support for the author's opinions and ideas. Each source is well-connected to the topic and	The paper uses many sources to support the argument. The paper uses paraphrase and summary, as well as quotations which are connected generally to the paper's ideas. Each source supports the main points of the paper.	The paper uses the minimum number of sources. There are elements of paraphrase, summary and quotation, but the paper may rely too much on one over the others. There is limited interpretation/explanation for each source as it is included in the paper.	The paper doesn't use the required number or sources, or relies too heavily on quotations or paraphrase or summary, instead of using a mix of the three. The sources may not be clearly connected to the paper's topic.
supports a specific point of the argument. There are at least 5 credible sources.	There are at least 5 credible sources.	There are at least 5 credible sources.	There are less than 5 credible sources.

Grammar, Punctuation, Spelling (GPS)

Excellent	Good	Average	Low
4 points	3 points	2 point	1 point
You use a variety of	You generally use only basic	You make frequent errors in	Grammar mistakes are very
grammatical structures.	grammatical structures. You	the basic grammar structures.	basic. (For example, you
When you use more	may make some errors,	Grammar mistakes may	might confuse "he" and
complex structures, you	especially in verb tense,	make some parts of your	"she.") Grammar mistakes
may make a few errors.	word order, or word form.	essay unclear, but a reader	make the meaning of
You demonstrate mastery	However, grammar mistakes	can still understand your	important ideas unclear.
of spelling, punctuation,	do not make meaning	main ideas. There are	There is very little mastery
and capitalization.	unclear. There are	frequent errors in spelling,	of writing conventions. The
Meaning is clear.	occasional errors in spelling,	punctuation, and	essay is dominated by errors
	punctuation, and	capitalization. Meaning is	of spelling, punctuation, and
	capitalization.	sometimes confusing.	capitalization.

**APA Formatting** 

Excellent	Good	Average	Low
4 points	3 points	2 point	1 point
The paper has all of the	The paper has the key	The paper has the basics of	The paper doesn't appear to
elements of APA	elements of APA format,	APA format, but some errors	follow APA format, or has
formatting, with little to	with some errors, but they	may distract readers. All	significant errors in
no errors. All sources have	are not distracting to the	sources have in-text citations	formatting. A cover page or
in-text citations and	reader. All sources have in-	and reference list citations.	reference page may be
reference list citations. All	text citations and reference	All headings, cover and	missing, or there may be
headings, cover and	list citations. All headings,	reference pages follow APA	errors in headings.
reference pages follow	cover and reference pages	format.	
APA format.	follow APA format.		

Drafts/Improvements

Diants/improvements			
Excellent	Good	Average	Low
4 points	3 points	2 point	1 point
You have turned in all	You have turned in most of	You have turned in drafts late,	You have not turned in any
drafts in a timely fashion,	your drafts in on time, and	or your final paper is missing	drafts, or you are missing
and your final paper	your final paper may be	one or more drafts. You made	most if not all of your drafts
includes all drafts for this	missing a prewrite or an	very few changes in your	for your final paper. Your
paper. You have made	outline. You have made	drafts, or did not submit them	paper has changed very
significant improvement in	improvements in your paper,	in a timely manner.	little, if at all.
your paper over time.	but with more work it could		
	have been a stronger draft.		

<sup>\*</sup> Any instance of plagiarism will result in a 0.0 grade for this assignment.

