

Assessment Criteria
ENG4543 – History and Culture of Anglo-American Rock

Excellent

Exceptional work, showing evidence of deep and wide-ranging knowledge and understanding. Outstanding ability to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate with a sustained argument. Evidence of extensive reading beyond course content. Displaying high standards of presentation and writing. Characterized by insight and originality. Work that is independent, original, and insightful. Shows a demonstrable attempt at original thought. Evidence of a capacity to pursue independent lines of enquiry. Evidence of a clear awareness of the salient points and an ability to discuss them analytically and incisively as well as with originality.

Good

Work in this range should have a strong argument and clear focus. Uses a range of examples and sources to support its claims. Also has a robust structure and clear logic. Papers in this range have a breadth of knowledge and source work, but may lack some real original thought. Can weigh up and evaluate different arguments and identifies key issues. Well written with few technical errors. Good information and cogent argument with an awareness of nuance and complexity. Reflects a thorough grasp of concepts and of their interrelationships. Indicates proficiency and includes coherent, defensible arguments and adequate examples, but may be a bit mechanical and/or lacking in originality.

Average

Works in this range could have a relevant thesis, but also might contain poorly developed arguments. More descriptive than analytical. Relies on basic course material with limited additional reading and research. Provides a reasonably structured account but with some signs of confusion. Might contain errors of fact or interpretation. Some grammatical and spelling errors. May be an imbalance in the quality of the different sections. Shows a reasonable degree of competence and knowledge but insufficiently developed argument with one or more key points neglected. Improper citation or mixing of citation styles.

Poor

Papers in this range could have a thin argument with little analytical awareness. Weak development of the thesis or the main questions. Shows some knowledge of relevant material, but at an elementary level that is heavily descriptive. Fails to address the most important points; insignificant or no argument; superficial analysis; often irrelevant or tangential. Inadequately informed, erroneous in matters of fact and interpretation, and poorly organized. Poorly written with numerous grammatical and spelling errors. Little effort to use correct citation style.

Unacceptable

Papers in this band show a bare effort at research, writing, structure, and development of argument. Shows some, though severely limited, knowledge of relevant material. Does not develop a thesis or a strong argument; insignificant or no argument; superficial; often irrelevant or tangential. Inadequately informed, erroneous in matters of fact and interpretation, poorly organized. Poorly written with a variety of glaring grammatical and spelling errors and inadequate referencing or bad academic practice.

Work in this range might also not be considered suitable for this level. Failure to carry out the task assigned. Negligible or wholly irrelevant content. Incomplete paper that comes far below the required length. Serious grammatical and spelling errors. Some attempt at analysis, but misconceived and/or very incoherent. Negligible or wholly irrelevant content. No attempt at analysis. Little to no understanding or knowledge of the course.