

English 335, Current Event Connections Rubric

5th hour requirement policy:

This is a 5 credit course with an arranged 5th hour. This means that, in addition to the four hours we spend in class each week, we arrange an additional hour of class time devoted to this course. This class time is in addition to the homework which, because it is commensurate with the credits earned, is greater for a 5 credit class than a 4 credit class. The university guideline is that lecture courses require 2 hours of homework or preparation for each credit hour. Consequently, a 5 credit lecture course should require 15 total hours of your time each week.

The rigor of this rubric correlates with the status of this assignment as the 5th hour requirement in English 335, following the policy posted above, and the expected out-of-class contribution. The final submission will be evaluated according to the following:

Point Range	60	80	100
Central Idea / Argument	Submission is unclear or fails to respond to the assignment guidelines. Argument seems opinion-based or lacks rigor (presented as stream of consciousness).	Submission follows the assignment, and attempts to make an argument about its material. Argument struggles to provide its own unique insights.	Submission follows the assignment and makes a clear statement in relation to the goals of the assignment. The writer's central idea goes beyond the insights of the lectures/readings and develops its own conclusions.
Analysis	Submission fails to provide analysis that validates the central idea/argument. Important details of reading or film are not mentioned, or mentioned vaguely.	Analysis points to relevant features of the text being studied, but struggles to draw important conclusions about these features.	Analysis pays close attention to the text being studied and provides a 'close reading.' Analysis goes beyond pure explication and develops the importance of the material through highlighting important details/arguments.
Use of Sources	Citations are not included.	Research is cited, but it does not meaningfully contribute to the argument the writer makes. The writer relies on non-academic research.	Writer has conducted and included relevant, academic research that contributes to her or his argument. Research adds to or complicates the argument the writer makes.
Assignment Requirements	Writer does not meet the assignment requirements of each stage, or is missing stages.	Writers meets the assignment requirements of each stage (such as word count and required sources), but does not meet all goals of the assignment.	Writer meets the assignment requirements of each stage (such as word count and required sources). Each stage fulfills its goals, rather than meeting the requirements and failing to fulfill its goals.
Mechanics	No attempt to proofread has been made.	Evidence of proofreading is evident.	Each stage has been proofread, and attention has been paid to document design and the craft of writing.