Assignment 8a: Legal Topic Final Research Paper

Assignment

For this assignment, you will choose a current legal issue in higher education (use text for ideas) and write a 10-12 page paper (excluding title page, abstract, and reference page). Use at least 3-4 federal court cases and at least two law journals as resources to discuss the issue. The paper should be balanced in presenting all sides of the issue and you should take definitive position on the matter that includes recommendations for addressing the issue. This assignment will be graded based on proper use of APA, clarity in identifying the issue, effectively presenting relevant sides, and level of sophistication in content and structure (see rubric below for specifics).

**I WILL ALSO UPLOAD THE INITIAL TOPIC PROPOSAL SINCE THIS ASSIGNMENT WILL BE BASED OFF OF THAT TOPIC.**

**Paper Rubric**

| Paper Rubric |
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| **Criteria** | **Ratings** | **Pts** |
| This criterion is linked to a Learning Outcome Paper FocusPurpose/Position Statement |

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| **20.0 to >18.0 pts****Exemplary**Identifies a relevant research topic and a thesis that provides direction for the paper that is engaging and thought provoking, The thesis clearly and concisely states the position, premise, or hypothesis and is consistently the focal point throughout the paper. | **18.0 to >15.0 pts****Accomplished**Identifies a relevant research topic and a thesis that provides adequate direction for the paper with some degree of interest for the reader. The thesis states the position, premise, or hypothesis, and is the focal point of the paper for the most part. | **15.0 to >13.0 pts****Developing**Identifies a research topic but may be too broad in scope and/or the thesis is somewhat unclear and needs to be developed further. Focal point is not consistently maintained throughout the paper. | **13.0 to >0 pts****Unsatisfactory/Beginning**Fails to identify a relevant research topic or is not clearly defined and/or the paper lacks focus throughout. |

 | 20.0 pts |
| This criterion is linked to a Learning Outcome Analysis |

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| **30.0 to >28.0 pts****Exemplary**Demonstrates a sophisticated understanding and careful, critical analysis of the research topic and thesis (argument). Compares/contrasts perspectives, considers counter arguments or opposing positions, and draws original and thoughtful conclusions with future implications. | **28.0 to >26.0 pts****Accomplished/Satisfactory**Demonstrates an understanding and some critical analysis of the research topic and thesis (argument). Adequately compares/contrasts perspectives, counter-arguments, or opposing positions but broader connections and/or implications are not as thoroughly explored. | **26.0 to >22.0 pts****Developing**Demonstrates general understanding with limited critical analysis of the research topic and thesis (argument). Summarizes perspectives, counter-arguments, or opposing positions. | **22.0 to >0 pts****Unsatisfactory/Beginning**Demonstrates a lack of understanding and inadequate analysis of the research topic and thesis. Analysis is superficial based on opinions and preferences rather than critical analysis. |

 | 30.0 pts |
| This criterion is linked to a Learning Outcome EvidenceSources |

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| **30.0 to >28.0 pts****Exemplary**Provides compelling and accurate evidence to support in-depth the central position beyond the required (10) research sources. Research sources are highly relevant, accurate, and reliable and add to the strength of the paper; and are effectively referenced and cited throughout the paper. | **28.0 to >26.0 pts****Accomplished/Satisfactory**Provides essential, accurate evidence to support the central position with the required (10) research sources that are mostly relevant, accurate, and reliable. Sources are referenced and cited appropriately throughout the paper for the most part. | **26.0 to >22.0 pts****Developing**Provides some evidence to support the central position with only a few research sources. Some sources may not be relevant, accurate, and reliable and/or appropriately referenced and cited in the paper. | **22.0 to >0 pts****Unsatisfactory/Beginning**Lacks sufficient research sources to support the central position and/or, if included, are generally not relevant, accurate, or reliable. Contains numerous factual mistakes, omissions, or oversimplifications. Sources, if included, are not properly referenced and cited in the paper. |

 | 30.0 pts |
| This criterion is linked to a Learning OutcomeOrganization |

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| **10.0 to >9.0 pts****Exemplary**Paper is effectively organized. Ideas are arranged logically; flow smoothly, with a strong progression of thought from paragraph to paragraph connecting to the central position. Includes all required components (introduction, body, conclusion, Reference List, etc.). | **9.0 to >8.0 pts****Accomplished/Satisfactory**Paper is adequately organized. Ideas are arranged reasonably with a progression of thought from paragraph to paragraph connecting to the central position. Includes required components (introduction, body, conclusion, Reference List, etc.) for the most part. | **8.0 to >6.0 pts****Developing**Paper is somewhat organized, although occasionally ideas from paragraph to paragraph may not flow well and/or connect to the central position or be clear as a whole. May be missing a required component and/or components may be less than complete. | **6.0 to >0 pts****Unsatisfactory/Beginning**Paper lacks logical organization and impedes readers’ comprehension of ideas. Central position is rarely evident from paragraph to paragraph and/or the paper is missing multiple required components. |

 | 10.0 pts |
| This criterion is linked to a Learning OutcomeWriting Quality & and Adherence to APA Guidelines |

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| **10.0 to >8.0 pts****Exemplary**Paper is well written and clear using APA guidelines and standard English characterized by elements of a strong writing style. Basically free from grammar, punctuation, spelling, usage, or formatting errors. | **8.0 to >6.0 pts****Accomplished/Satisfactory**Paper shows above average writing style and clarity in writing using standard English and following APA guidelines. Minor errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling, usage, and/or formatting. | **6.0 to >0.0 pts****Developing**Paper shows an average and/or casual writing style using standard English and following APA guidelines. Some errors in spelling, grammar, punctuation, usage, and/or formatting. | **0.0 pts****Unsatisfactory/Beginning**Paper shows a below average/poor writing style lacking in elements of appropriate standard English and following proper APA guidelines. Frequent errors in spelling, grammar, punctuation, spelling, usage, and/or formatting. |

 | 10.0 pts |
| Total Points: 100.0 |