**Essay 2: The Age of Reason/Revolutionary Period Grading Rubric**

| **Criteria** | **Levels of Achievement** | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Content** | **Advanced** | **Proficient** | **Developing** | **Not Present** | **Points Earned** |
| **Development** | **39 to 45 points**   * Major points are stated clearly and are well-supported. * Content is persuasive and comprehensive. * Content and purpose of the writing are clear. * Thesis has a strong claim. * Audience is clear and appropriate for the topic. * Supportive information (if required) is strong and addresses writing focus. | **31 to 38 points**   * Major points are addressed, but clarity or support is limited. * Content is somewhat persuasive or comprehensive. * Content is inconsistent and lacks clear purpose and/or clarity). * Thesis could be stronger. * Supportive information (if required) needs strengthening or does not address writing focus. | **1 to 30 points**   * Major points are unclear and/or insufficiently supported. * Content is missing essentials. * Content has unsatisfactory purpose, focus, and clarity. * Supportive information (if required) is missing. | **0 points**  Not present |  |
| **Organization and Structure** | **39 to 45 points**   * Writing is well-structured, clear, and easy to follow. * Introduction is compelling and forecasts the topic and thesis. * Each paragraph is unified and has a clear central idea. * Transitional wording is present throughout the writing. * Conclusion is a logical end to the writing. | **31 to 38 points**   * Writing is adequately organized, but some areas are difficult to follow. * Introduction needs to provide a stronger gateway into the writing. * Some paragraphs lack unity and coherence. * Better transitions are needed to provide fluency of ideas. * Conclusion is trite or barely serves its purpose. | **1 to 30 points**   * Organization and structure detract from the writer’s message. * Introduction and/or conclusion is/are incomplete or missing. * Paragraphs are not unified (e.g. more than 1 topic included, missing or inadequate controlling and concluding sentences). * Transitions are missing. * Conclusion, if present, fails to serve its purpose. | **0 points**  Not present |  |
| **Grammar and Diction** | **39 to 45 points**   * The writing reflects correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling standards. * Language is accurate, appropriate, and effective. * The writing’s tone is appropriate and highly effective. | **31 to 38 points**   * The writing contains some grammar, punctuation, and/or spelling errors. * Language is unclear, awkward, or inappropriate in parts. * The writing’s tone is generally appropriate and moderately effective. | **1 to 30 points**   * The writing contains many grammar, punctuation, and/or spelling errors. * Language use is largely inaccurate or inappropriate. * The writing’s tone is ineffective and/or inappropriate. | **0 points**  Not present |  |
| **Format: Current MLA/APA/ Turabian Paper Requirements** | **11 to 15 points**   * Writing correctly follows formatting guidelines. * Parenthetical and bibliographical source citations are used correctly and appropriately. | **5 to 10 points**   * Writing follows most formatting guidelines, but some flaws are detected. * Parenthetical and bibliographical source citations are incorrectly formatted or used. | **1 to 4 points**   * Writing lacks many elements of correct formatting. * Parenthetical and bibliographical source citations and/or references are not provided. | **0 points**  Not present |  |
| **Total** | | | |  | **/150** |

**Instructor’s Comments:**