

Essay Rubric	ILO	EXEMPLARY 4	ACCOMPLISHED 3	DEVELOPING 2	BEGINNING 1	NO ATTEMPT 0
Identification of Issue (Thesis) 20% of grade	ILO-SK.A.1 ILO-AL.A.2	The political topic is clearly and prominently stated along with a potential solution. A news article from the last four weeks is cited to illustrate the issue.	The political topic is stated somewhere in the submission, but not prominently at the beginning to give the essay direction. A relevant news article from the last four weeks is included	The chosen issue is relevant to the topic for the assignment. The required news article may be only loosely related to the topic, or the article may be older than four weeks.	The required political issue is not relevant to the topic for the assignment, or it may not be clear what the issue is.	No submission
Incorporation of levels of government (Knowledge of concepts) 20% of grade	ILO-BI.A.5 ILO-DL.A.1	Involvement and responsibility of all three branches of the federal government are incorporated into explaining the issue and solution. Relevance of state and local governments is also taken into consideration.	All of the three branches of the federal government are mentioned relative to the issue and solution with some explanation of their levels of involvement. Little to no mention of state and local governments is included.	The three branches of government are mentioned briefly, although only one or two is taken into consideration in constructing the solution to the issue. There's no mention of state or local governments.	There's no differentiation among the three branches of the federal government relative to the issue and solution. There's no mention of state or local governments.	No submission
Construction of argument and rebuttal of counterargument (Critical thinking) 30% of grade	ILO-BI.A.2 ILO-IS.A.3	The submission clearly illustrates the preferable solution to the issue, explains the details of an opposing argument, and finishes with a solid rebuttal that refutes the opposing argument. All claims and arguments are supported with credible and documented evidence.	The submission clearly illustrates the preferable solution to the issue. The counter argument and/or rebuttal may not be fully formed. Some points are supported with documented and credible evidence.	Opposing sides of the issues are explained. It may not be clear which is the preferred course of action, or the opposing argument may be missing altogether. Few claims are backed with credible evidence.	It's unclear which courses of actions are available or preferred. Arguments lack evidence and support and rely on personal opinion.	No submission
Writing Skill 20% of grade	ILO-SK.A.2 ILO-SK.A.3 ILO-DL.A.5	Submission demonstrates clear and concise writing style and a sophisticated usage of current terminology in the field. Assignment is generally free of errors in grammar, spelling, and formatting. Citations clearly differentiate student's thoughts from ideas in sources.	Submission displays good writing, grammar, and formatting with fewer than five errors. It demonstrates proper usage of the field's current terminology to the level expected in an Associate's degree. Citations mostly differentiate student's thoughts from ideas in sources.	Submission reflects basic writing and grammar with more than five errors. Student uses terminology of the field, but it may be out of date or used in a less than precise way. The essay makes it difficult to differentiate between original ideas of the student and those borrowed from sources.	Topics, concepts, and ideas are not coherently discussed or expressed. There are numerous proofreading errors. Submission demonstrates little familiarity with the terminology of the field or uses it improperly often. Sources may be listed but not cited to show where they were used.	No submission
Research Skill 10% of grade	ILO-IS.A.2 ILO-DL.A.4	Submission provides sophisticated synthesis of complex body of information. Submission incorporates at least of four quality references in assignment including required course readings and scholarly literature.	Submission achieves an appropriate synthesis of research. Assignment contains fewer than four acceptable resources.	Submission provides a basic, but borderline perspective of research abilities. It has incorporated one or two sources of marginal or acceptable quality.	Sources used are inadequate in quantity, quality, or incorporation. Non-credible sources are cited.	No submission

