

GRADING RUBRIC
Final Paper, HIST 423

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Argument (40%) <i>Does the paper have a significant thesis that is supported and developed with a persuasive argument? Does the argument make some original contribution to an existing debate? Does the author anticipate and address counter-arguments?</i>	4.0	3.3	2.3	1.3
	3.7	3.0	2.0	1.0
		2.7	1.7	0.7
Use of Evidence (40%) <i>Is the paper's overall argument, as well as its smaller claims, well supported by specific evidence? Is the evidence reliable, relevant, and drawn mainly from primary sources? When appropriate, does the author consider the contexts in which sources were created in order to evaluate how well it evidences a certain point?</i>	4.0	3.3	2.3	1.3
	3.7	3.0	2.0	1.0
		2.7	1.7	0.7
Clarity (10%) <i>Does the paper "stick to the point"? Is the paper well organized so that the argument and its supporting evidence are clear? Are main points provided "early" and/or "late," whether in the paper as a whole or in paragraphs and sections?</i>	4.0	3.3	2.3	1.3
	3.7	3.0	2.0	1.0
		2.7	1.7	0.7
Style (5%) <i>Is the paper written well? Are the sentences and paragraphs structured in a way that makes the paper readable and engaging? Is word choice varied and appropriate? Are there signs that revisions have been made (e.g., minimal repetition, few run-on sentences)? Are the sources cited correctly using Chicago Manual of Style? Do direct quotations from other writers overwhelm the author's voice?</i>	4.0	3.3	2.3	1.3
	3.7	3.0	2.0	1.0
		2.7	1.7	0.7
Grammar (5%) <i>Does the paper have significant and repeated errors in punctuation, spelling, and grammar?</i>	4.0	3.3	2.3	1.3
	3.7	3.0	2.0	1.0
		2.7	1.7	0.7

Key: 4.0 (A), 3.7 (A-), 3.3 (B+), 3.0 (B), 2.7 (B-), 2.3 (C+), 2.0 (C), 1.7 (C-), 1.3 (D+), 1.0 (D), 0.7 (D-), 0 (F)