

GEOG 5800 Research Question Assessment Rubric: Peer Review Session

	Excellent	Satisfactory	Weak	Poor
Linkage to Background	Demonstrates that the research problem is based on a substantial breadth and depth of knowledge on the subject	Demonstrates that the research problem is based on a good breadth and depth of knowledge on the subject	Suggests that the research problem is based on an adequate breadth and depth of knowledge	Suggests the researcher's breadth and depth of knowledge on the subject is poor
Question: Limited	Clearly and narrowly defined question	Clearly defined question	Broad question with slight focus	Question is unfocused
Question: Unified	Clearly deals with a single controlling idea	Reference to one controlling idea	Mostly deals with one controlling idea	Multiple controlling ideas
Question: Stated Exactly	Terminology is precise and well-chosen for the context	Terminology is appropriate	Terminology is mostly appropriate	Terminology is confusing or inappropriate
Question: Overall Clarity	Provides a clear and unambiguous indication of the research direction	Provides a good indication of the research direction	Provides an indication of where the research may go	Does not provide enough information to define a research direction
In-Text Citations	All non-original ideas are well-referenced.	Most non-original ideas are well-referenced.	Many statements are unsubstantiated.	References are seldom cited to support statements.
Bibliography	All references cited are in the reference list, which follows a consistent format.	Most references cited are in the reference list, which follows a format.	References are cited in the reference list, but inconsistently.	References did not follow a consistent format.

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Structure	All paragraphs within a section flow well from one to the next	All paragraphs within a section generally flow well from one to the next	All paragraphs within a section flow somewhat from one to the next	All paragraphs within a section flow poorly
Paragraph Construction	All paragraphs include introductory sentence, explanations or details, and concluding sentence.	Most paragraphs include introductory sentence, explanations, and concluding sentence.	Paragraphs included related information but were typically not constructed well.	Paragraphing structure was not clear and sentences were not typically related within the paragraphs.
Mechanics	No grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	Almost no grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors	A few grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.	Many grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.
Overall	Excellent proposal	Good proposal	Weak Proposal	Poor proposal