

Grading instrument for POL2014 exam

A: Is able to describe the main findings of core articles, define the main terms and articulate the causal mechanisms linking the main independent and dependent variables. High-level critical analysis of causal claims drawing on studies beyond the 'core readings' for the question (not beyond the course readings). Well structured with some reasoned argumentation and excellent expression and referencing.

B: Is able to describe the main findings of core articles, define the main terms and articulate the causal mechanisms linking the main independent and dependent variables. Some critical analysis of causal claims linked to the main question drawing on studies beyond the 'core readings' for the question, but largely descriptive. Generally well structured with some reasoned argumentation. Well written, expressed and structured.

C: Is able to describe the main findings of core articles and define the main terms. Generally able to articulate the causal mechanisms linking the main independent and dependent variables. Little in the way of critical analysis or examination beyond the 'core readings' for the topic or an attempt at a critical analysis that largely irrelevant to the main question or the relevance is not clear. Largely descriptive. Adequately structured with little reasoned argumentation or erroneous reasoning. Adequately expressed and referenced.

D: Is able to describe the main findings of core articles and define the main terms. Unable to clearly articulate the causal mechanisms linking the main independent and dependent variables. Little in the way of critical analysis or examination beyond the 'core readings' for the topic or an attempt at a critical analysis that largely irrelevant to the main question or the relevance is not clear. Largely descriptive. Poorly structured with little reasoned argumentation or erroneous reasoning. Poorly expressed and referenced.

E: Is able to describe the main findings of core articles but terms are poorly or simplistically defined. Unable to clearly articulate the causal mechanisms linking the main independent and dependent variables. Little or no critical analysis or examination beyond the 'core readings' for the topic. Descriptive. Poorly structured with little reasoned argumentation or erroneous reasoning. Poorly written, structured and referenced.