

Rubric for assessing student work related to “Employ social science or historical methodology to collect and interpret evidence about the social world”

Dimensions	Novice	Intermediate	Proficient
Topic selection in context			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies a creative, focused, and manageable topic that addresses potentially important questions in the discipline. • Topic is stated clearly and described comprehensively, delivering all relevant information necessary for full understanding. • Topic is contextualized; a thorough (systematic and methodological) evaluation of the relevance of contexts is presented.
Articulating a position in context of disciplinary knowledge			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student’s position is original, independent and imaginative, taking into account the complexities of the topic. The limits of the position are acknowledged. • Others’ relevant points of view on the topic are synthesized. • Student’s position reflects grounding in the discipline, an understanding of the breadth and methodologies common the discipline. Position founded upon disciplinary-based knowledge and insights.
Methodological approach and development			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All elements of the methodology are skillfully developed. Appropriate methodology may be synthesized from across relevant subdisciplines. • Disciplinary focus throughout; appropriate use of discipline-based concepts and terms related to methodology.
Evidence and sources			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates skillful use of high-quality and relevant sources to develop ideas that are appropriate for the discipline. Evidence drawn from a variety of sources. • Ability to distinguish between facts and opinions; reliable/credible and unreliable sources; relevant main and/or research methods and the irrelevant. • Competent evaluation of the evidence, its strength, reliability, and validity. No presence of unsourced information found through random internet searches. • Citations, references, bibliography, etc. are accurate and presented in a discipline-appropriate way. No sign of plagiarism.
Interpretation and argument			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach to interpretation shows an awareness of the complexities/ challenges of evidence collection and interpretation within the discipline. • Capacity to develop an argument based on the evidence; ability to synthesize evidence in developing ideas and main points. • Interpretation consistent with disciplinary frameworks (its approaches, theories, etc.). Explanations of information, and inferences based on that information, grounded in the discipline.