

An **exemplary** response (4.0 answer):

- Has a clear thesis statement that makes an original argument
- Supports the thesis with strong evidence and specific examples
- Presents compelling and sophisticated analysis / Ties together content from lecture, the readings, and discussion section in an interesting way
- Has a clear structure and organization
- Has few or no grammar or spelling errors
- Provides correct citations for evidence and a works cited page is included for any outside sources
- Provides thorough historical context

A **proficient** response (3.5 answer):

- Has a clear thesis statement that makes a strong argument
- Supports the thesis with good evidence and some specific examples
- Presents some compelling analysis
- Has a clear structure and organization
- Has few or no grammar or spelling errors
- Provides correct citations for evidence and a works cited page is included for any outside sources
- Provides some historical context

A **satisfactory** response (3.0 answer):

- Has a thesis statement, but it is unclear or makes a weak argument
- Includes some evidence and examples but not enough to support the argument
- Presents some analysis, but provides mostly summary
- Shows evidence of structure and organization but with some rough parts
- Has several grammar or spelling errors
- Provides citations, but they may be incorrect or incomplete
- Provides little or no historical context

An **unsatisfactory** response (2.5 or below):

- Has a weak or missing thesis statement
- Includes few or no examples
- Provides summary rather than analysis
- Has a confusing structure that prevents the reader from understanding the author's purpose
- Has many grammar or spelling errors
- Is missing citations
- Does not provide historical context

*Note: These criteria may vary slightly depending on the type of question for each module