FINAL PAPER

GRADING TEMPLATE

Introduction, Thesis, Overall Organization: (20 pts)

* states thesis clearly, concisely and explicitly
* provides engaging hook to the essay
* follows logical order throughout paper
* provides clear transitions and connections

Data (50 pts)

* uses varied and appropriate research sources
* demonstrates competency in at least one of the archival research skills used in class
* finds and utilizes relevant archival data and government documents in the assignment
* reports information clearly, appropriately and completely
* explains relevance of all data used in the paper
* attempts to identify patterns
* fulfills requirements of the research assignment

Analysis (80 pts)

* uses at least one of the supplemental readings in the analysis
* cites three or more of the course readings and appropriate academic resources
* summarizes findings clearly and makes logical connections between the data
* attempts to draw relationships and considers alternative explanations
* develops reasonable arguments about the data
* discusses relevant constitutional issues illustrated by the topic
* discusses the role of the Congress and its members in resolving the issues and draws insights about legislative politics
* considers the implications of the topic to water policy – past and future

Conclusion (10 pts)

* states major findings and recommendations clearly
* ties together main themes and provides personal insight

Writing (40 pts)

* produces paper free of grammatical problems
  + sentence fragments
  + subject-verb disagreement, subject - pronoun disagreement
  + misspellings, punctuation, capitalization problems
* produces paper that is well written
  + avoids passive voice
  + avoids use of indefinite pronouns
  + contains topic sentences and appropriate paragraphing
  + uses appropriate citation style and provides a full bibliography using either APSA citation style or another standard citation format.

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS 200