**ED 201 Research Paper Scoring Rubric**

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| CATEGORY | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | RATING |
| Research Topic | Engaging and full development of a clear thesis; Makes a clear argument for why the chosen topic is important to education. | Competent thesis; the thesis represents sound and adequate understanding of the topic. | Mostly intelligible ideas; thesis purpose is weak, unclear, or indirectly supported. | Simplistic and unfocused ideas, showing signs of misunderstanding of concept; little or no sense of purpose or thesis. |  |
| Content Development | Uses appropriate, relevant, and compelling content to develop coherent knowledge of the research topic. | Uses appropriate and relevant content to develop a coherent response. | Uses appropriate content to develop a response. | Does not use appropriate content to develop a response. |  |
| Sources and Evidence | Response is clearly and compellingly supported through the use of specific references to the words or ideas of key authors, theorists, and/or anchor texts, and those sources are cited with in-text citations. | Response is clearly supported through the use of references to the words or ideas of key authors, theorists, and/or anchor texts, and those sources are cited with in-text citations. | Response is supported in some instances through the use of references to the words or ideas of key authors, theorists, and/or anchor texts and sources are sometimes cited. | Response is minimally or unsupported through the use of references to the words or ideas of key authors, theorists, and/or anchor texts and sources are rarely cited. |  |
| Language Conventions  (grammar, spelling, introduction/ supporting body paragraphs/  conclusion) | Contains few, if any errors in the conventions of the English language | Contains some errors in the conventions of the English language | Contains multiple errors in the conventions of the English language | Contains multiple serious errors in the conventions of the English language in  that the errors interfere with the reader’s understanding of the response |  |
| Reference Page | Author referenced 5 or more research articles or scholarly sources and the references were correctly written in MLA or APA style. | Author referenced 4 research articles or scholarly sources and the references were correctly written in MLA or APA style. | Author referenced 3 research articles or scholarly sources and the references were sometimes correctly written in MLA or APA style. | Author referenced 2 or fewer research articles or scholarly sources and the references were not written in MLA or APA style. |  |