

### Rubric for Historical Writing

|                                             |                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Writing Mechanics<br/>(25 pts.)</b>      | <b>&lt;16 pts.</b><br>Writing is difficult to understand and/or conversational; contains numerous and substantial errors in grammar, syntax, and phrasing. | <b>16-21 pts.</b><br>Writing lacks clarity and contains many errors and/or deficiencies in grammar, syntax, or phrasing. | <b>21-24 pts.</b><br>Writing is clear and contains only minor errors in grammar, syntax, or phrasing.                    | <b>24-25 pts.</b><br>Writing is sophisticated, powerful, and/or well-crafted; contains no major errors in grammar, syntax, or phrasing.                            |
| <b>Analysis<br/>(25 pts.)</b>               | <b>&lt;16 pts.</b><br>Author presents only basic information with little or no analysis.                                                                   | <b>16-21 pts.</b><br>Paper contains weak or superficial points; more descriptive than analytical.                        | <b>21-24 pts.</b><br>Author makes solid analytical points that are clearly conveyed to the reader                        | <b>24-25 pts.</b><br>Author shows exceptional insight and clarity to make compelling, powerful, and creative analytical points.                                    |
| <b>Evidence<br/>(20 pts.)</b>               | <b>&lt;14 pts.</b><br>Author does not use evidence and/or entirely fails to cite sources.                                                                  | <b>14-16 pts.</b><br>Author uses evidence sporadically or inappropriately; fails to cite sources accurately.             | <b>16-18 pts.</b><br>Author uses appropriate evidence to support analysis and cites all sources.                         | <b>18-20 pts.</b><br>Author uses a variety of carefully selected evidence to support analysis; cites all sources without any errors.                               |
| <b>Structure<br/>(20 pts.)</b>              | <b>&lt;14 pts.</b><br>The paper is entirely lacking any coherent or intentional structure.                                                                 | <b>14-16 pts.</b><br>Organizational structure is confusing or otherwise difficult to follow                              | <b>16-18 pts.</b><br>Paper links its main points together with only minor problems in clarity; may be somewhat formulaic | <b>18-20 pts.</b><br>Organizational structure effectively builds into a powerful and coherent whole with elegant, seamless transitions                             |
| <b>Historical Perspective<br/>(10 pts.)</b> | <b>&lt;6 pts.</b><br>Author does not provide context and/or has major historical inaccuracies or oversights                                                | <b>6-8 pts.</b><br>Author provides limited historical context; contains minor inaccuracies or oversights                 | <b>8-9 pts.</b><br>Author accurately and appropriately contextualizes their writing within a historical framework        | <b>9-10 pts.</b><br>Author shows sophisticated ability to weave in helpful historical context and/or situate their writing within a larger scholarly conversation. |