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|  | **Honors Thesis Evaluation Rubric**  |  |  |  |
|  | **Fail** | **Pass with Revisions** | **Pass** |  **Pass with Distinction** |
| **Research Question, issue, or creative challenge** | Research question/issue/creative challenge not IdentifiedGoals/objectives/hypothesis is missing or incomplete The paper/poster/thesis makes no argument for the significance of the research within the context of current scholarship or creative activity or the argument is incorrectThesis connection to appropriate local, national, global or civic issue(s) is not present | Research question/issue/creative challenge inaccurately or inadequately representedGoals/objectives/hypothesis is vague or incomplete The paper/poster/thesis makes some argument for the significance of the research within the context of current scholarship or creative activityThesis connection to appropriate local, national, global or civic issue(s) is underdeveloped | The author presents an educated point of view and gives some evidence.Research question/issue/creative challenge identified and summarizedGoals/objectives/hypothesis is clearThe paper/poster/thesis makes a clear argument for the significance of the research within the context of current scholarship or creative activity.Thesis connection to appropriate local, national, global or civic issue(s)is present | The thesis or performance has something to  say and says it well.  Research question/issue/creative challenge identified and summarizedGoals/objectives/hypothesis is clearThe paper/poster/thesis makes a compelling argument for the significance of the research within the context of current scholarship or creative activity.Thesis connection to appropriate local, national, global or civic issue(s) is developed |
| **Methodology & evidence** | Methodology/approach missing or inappropriateEvidence is not presented or is inappropriate [For research with conclusive and complete results] Interpretation of results is missing or incorrect[For research with inconclusive or incomplete results] Explanation of the reasons underlying the lack of clear results is missing or incorrect | Methodology/approach incomplete, insufficiently detailed, or inappropriateEvidence is present [For research with conclusive and complete results] The paper/poster/thesis minimally interprets the results.[For research with inconclusive or incomplete results] The paper/poster/thesis provides an inadequate explanation of the reasons underlying the lack of clear results. | The methods are appropriate given the research question or creative field. Evidence is sufficient[For research with conclusive and complete results] The paper/poster/thesis adequately interprets the results.[For research with inconclusive or incomplete results] The paper/poster/thesis provides a clear explanation of the reasons underlying the lack of clear results. | The methods are appropriate given the research question or creative field. Evidence is sufficient[For research with conclusive and complete results] The paper/poster/thesis skillfully interprets the results.[For research with inconclusive or incomplete results] The paper/poster/thesis provides an insightful explanation of the reasons underlying the lack of clear results. |
| **Style & Conventions** | Writing is inappropriate for the target audienceGrammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors obscure meaning throughout. Work is unfocusedOrganization is clumsySources not cited  | Writing is occasionally inappropriate for the target audienceAwkward sentences and grammatical errors make it difficult to understand what the writer means in placesOrganization is occasionally clumsySources are present but not used correctly | The writing is appropriate for the target audience.Language is mostly clear and effectively communicates ideas.Awkward sentences and grammatical errors occasionally make it difficult to understand what the writer means.  Citations are presented consistently and professionally throughout the text and in the list of works cited  | The writing is appropriate for the target audience.Language is clear and effectively communicates ideas.Language is nuanced and eloquent.Citations are presented consistently and professionally throughout the text and in the list of works cited  |

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