

Performance/Grading Rubric

ATS has asked me to grade research papers according to the following guidelines:

1. A central thesis around which the essay is built. The central theme should be concise, clearly stated and presented in the first paragraph of the essay. All key terms and the scope of the essay should be defined. (10 marks)
2. A theoretical framework that will be used to analyze the data. Description of the method and its presuppositions (i.e., detailed discussion of the crisis behind the text and its relationship to and points of integration with the essay topic) should be summarized clearly and precisely. Your digest and its implications will tell me that you've understood the classroom methodology. (20 marks)
3. Presentation and documentation of data. This is the main body of the essay. It should include as much data as needed to persuade me (points clearly organized, textual references cited, etc.). Note: A simple compilation of data is not an essay. The essay should not merely describe something. It is to be an analysis of the data encountered in the Old Testament text assigned with an argument for a particular conclusion. If you draw analysis from secondary literature, document appropriately. But you will find that the essays are set up so that your own analysis must carry the weight of the essay. Use current accepted style in documenting your sources and in presenting a final bibliography. (50 marks)
4. Essay written creatively and in a readable fashion. Include variety in style. Use TITLES, subTITLES and clear logic. This formatting will save you from wandering around the topic. Reread your essay before submitting it. I will expect it to be clean and free of grammatical and typographical errors. (10 marks)
5. Conclusions and Implications of these conclusions. Do not merely stop writing at some point (when you've satisfied the required number of pages?). Conclude your work appropriately. Avoid sweeping generalizations that mean nothing in particular. Note questions that may remain unanswered. Rarely does an essay deal with a topic that can be completely or definitively answered within the space allowed for this essay. (10 marks)

	A	B	C	D	F
Central Thesis (10 marks)	Stated clearly/ creatively in meticulous detail (10)	Stated adequately in sufficient detail (8-9)	Stated partially in some detail (7)	Stated poorly without detail (5-6)	Missing or incomplete (0-4)
Theoretical Framework	Stated clearly/	Stated adequately	Stated partially	Stated poorly	Missing or

(20 marks)	Creatively in meticulous detail (19-20)	y in sufficient detail (16-18)	in some detail (14-15)	without detail (12-13)	incomplete (0-11)
Presentation and Documentation (50 marks)	Excellentl y organized Fully clear Supported and convincin g (46-50)	Adequatel y organized Mostly clear Supported and convincin g (40-45)	Partially organized Somewhat clear Supported and convincing (35-39)	Little or no organization Vague Little or no Support (30-34)	Missing or incomplete (0-29)
Creativity and Readability (10 marks)	Excellent Creativity Effective Style Logical and Helpful Headings Error Free (10)	Some Creativity Adequate Style Used Headings Occasiona l errors (8-9)	Little or no creativity Ineffective style Headings few or inappropriate Frequent errors (7)	Vague or erratic style No Headings Replete with Errors Incoherent (5-6)	Missing or incomplete (0-4)
Conclusions and Implications (10 marks)	Stated clearly/ Creatively Profound sense of the issues Visionary (10)	Stated adequatel y With command of the issues Appropria te prospects identified (8-9)	Stated partially Somewhat in command of the issues Prospects not well established or identified (7)	Stated poorly with poor command of the issues Prospects brief or unclear (5-6)	Missing or incomplete (0-4)