

Essay Question Rubric

Core Rubric:	Points	/Possible	Explanation
Thesis:		/1	Presents a thesis that makes a historically defensible claim and responds to all parts of the question. The thesis must consist of one or more sentences located in one place, wither in the introduction or the conclusion.
Argument Development: Using Evidence		/2	1 Point-Addresses the topic of the question with specific examples of relevand evidence. 1 point-Utilizes specific examples of evidence to fully and effectively substantiate the stated thesis or a relevant argument.
Argument Development: Using the Targeted Historical Thinking Skill		/2	COMPARISON: 1 Point-Describes similarities AND differences among historical individuals, events, developmetns, or processes. 1 point- Explains the reasons for similarities AND differences among historical individuals, events, developments, or processes (OR, DEPENDING ON THE PROMPT) Evaluates the relative significance of hisotrical individuals, event, developments, or processes. CAUSATION: 1 point- describes causes AND/OR effects of a historical event, development, or process. 1 point- Explains the reasons for the causes AND/OR effects of a historical event, development, or process. CCOT: 1 point- describes historical continuity AND change over time. 1 point- Explains the reasons for historical continuity AND change over time. PERIODIZATION 1 point- Describes the ways in which the historical development specified in the prompt was different from and similar to developments that preceded AND/OR followed. 1 point- Explains the extent to which the historical development specified in the prompt was different from and similar to developments that preceded AND/OR followed.
Synthesis		/1	Extends the argument by explaining the connections between the argument and ONE of the following: *A development in a different historical period, situation, era, or geographical area. *A course theme and/or approach to history that is not the focus of the essay (such as political, economic, social, cultural, or intellectual history). *A different discipline or field of inquiry (such as economics, government and politics, art history, or anthropology).