 Checklist

# CONTENT

[ ]  Do you have a title?

[ ]  Do you have a concise opening paragraph that lays out the question to be addressed?

[ ]  Do you present background as to why the question/debate is important?

[ ]  Do you make an argument that clearly answers the question posed at the start?

[ ]  Do you have empirical evidence presented to support your argument?

[ ]  Did you add an empirical resource not on the course list?

 [ ]  Did you upload the new resource with summary on the course website?

[ ]  Do you have a concluding paragraph that summarizes the blog including a “take home point?”

[ ]  Do you have APA style references for any material used in the blog? (Note, only cite material *used* – you do not have to use every paper assigned if it takes you off point.)

[ ]  Do you have a 150 word summary of the blog including three key words listed at the end?

[ ]  Is it between 600 to 1000 words?

[ ]  And were all of these words *your own* words (not excerpts or quotes from others)?

[ ]  Did you update the draft blog based on class discussion?

**BONUS CONTENT**

[ ]  Do you weigh competing arguments?

[ ]  Do you include s*pecific* recommendations for future research (not just saying “more research is needed”)?

[ ]  Do you include solutions for critiques you make (as it is easy to criticize, harder to fix)?

[ ]  Do you identify potential applications to the real world?

[ ]  Do you include relevant graphics?

[ ]  Did you create original graphics?

[ ]  Do you include hyperlinks to *reliable* additional resources?

[ ]  Did you enhance presentation of the blog in any other way? (If yes, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

# CLARITY

[ ]  Did you proofread for typos and grammatical errors? (See “writing tips” handout for common errors – any of these will get your blog sent back to you.)

[ ]  Did you eliminate run-on sentences (if a sentence goes over three lines, has multiple commas, or uses “and” a lot, it is likely a run-on)?

[ ]  Did you make sure that every paragraph makes a single point?

[ ]  Did you make sure that every sentence in that paragraph is relevant to that point?

[ ]  Did you avoid tangents or irrelevant points?

[ ]  Did you include transitions between paragraphs so that the blog flows together?

[ ]  Did you define (or include hyperlinks to) psychological terminology? (And these ARE NOT Wikipedia or “dictionaries.”)

[ ]  Is the blog understandable to a layperson? (Check the reading level or have it read by an honest non-psychologist.)

# QUALITY

Assuming you do not have grammatical errors, I will be grading you on the following. Please check which of the following you feel your blog was strongest on:

[ ]  Relevance: Did you successfully address the question(s) of the week? (Keeping relevant, avoiding tangents, staying on point, and providing more answers than questions.)

[ ]  Strength: Did you make a strong argument? (Did you convince me? Strength of evidence and consideration of alternative perspectives weighs heavily here. This is where “bonus” content – like eliminating competing argument – can help you out.)

[ ]  Accuracy: Did you understand the material and demonstrate that understanding in the blog? (Looking for inaccuracies here, material that you overlooked, misunderstood, or did not convey well.)

[ ]  Contribution: Does the blog contribute to the scientific community’s understanding of the phenomenon in question?

[ ]  Accessibility: Does the blog aid the general community’s understanding of the phenomenon in question?

Once you are sure your blog has met content and clarity requirements, go to: https://graduatesocialpsych.weebly.com/submit-your-blog.html

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