 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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