

**Nailah Robinson**  
**Independent Research Paper Advisees**  
**2018-2019**  
**Sample Rubric**

**NB: This rubric is a sample only. It is similar to but not necessarily the final rubric that will be used.**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Critical Analysis (10)</b>   |  |
| Defines a legal question to be answered<br>Thesis is clearly stated and clearly articulated<br>Identifies and accurately explains key concepts<br>Includes in-depth Discussion<br>Argument is fully developed   |  |
| <b>Originality (5)</b>  |  |
| Paper presents original thesis or original take on common topic<br>Topic and thesis are timely<br>Adds to discussion and research in the area and does not simply restate or describe other sources   |  |
| <b>Extent of Research and Use of Sources (10)</b>   |  |
| Thorough research into relevant primary and secondary sources<br>Uses appropriate research methodology<br>Sources are integrated into paper so they support the flow of the argument<br>External sources are adequately cited<br>Propositions are properly supported  |  |
| <b>Structure and Organization (10)</b>  |  |
| Introduction gets reader's attention<br>Introduction articulates thesis<br>There is a roadmap<br>There are appropriate transitions<br>Argument is presented clearly and logically<br>There is a good balance between description and analysis for each section<br>There is overall structure<br>Sections and paragraphs are well structured |  |
| <b>Presentation and Polish (5)</b>  |  |
| Clear, concise, proofread; writing flows and is easy to read, well presented  |  |
| <b>Total (40)</b>   |  |