

Written Communication Value Rubric
 Kress Foundation Department of Art History
 University of Kansas

	Excellent 4	Very Good 3	Acceptable 2	Insufficient 1	Skill not Relevant to the Assignment (N/A)
Control of Syntax and Mechanics	Uses language that skillfully conveys meaning to readers with clarity and fluency and is virtually error-free.	Uses language that clearly conveys meaning to readers. The language has few errors.	Uses language that generally conveys meaning to readers, although writing includes some errors.	Uses language that impedes meaning because of errors in usage.	
Content (Includes demonstrating contextual and/or formal understanding of works of art and/or objects of material and visual culture)	Uses appropriate content in a compelling way to illustrate mastery of the subject, conveying the writer's understanding and shaping the whole work.	Uses appropriate content to develop and explore ideas within the context of the discipline and shape the whole work.	Uses some appropriate content to develop and explore ideas through some of the work.	Does not use appropriate content to explore ideas in the work.	
Critical Thinking Skills	Demonstrates a sophisticated ability to read and/or think critically and to identify, organize, and analyze scholarly arguments or works of material and visual culture	Demonstrates a consistent ability to read and/or think critically and to identify, organize, and analyze scholarly arguments or works of material and visual culture	Demonstrates an inconsistent ability to read and/or think critically and to identify, organize, and analyze scholarly arguments or works of material and visual culture	Does not demonstrate an ability to read and/or think critically and to identify, organize, and analyze scholarly arguments or works of material and visual culture	
Development and Support of Thesis	Formulates a strong thesis, supports and extends it in a sophisticated manner, and brings the subject to new conclusions	Formulates a clear thesis, supports it in a competent manner, and brings the subject to valid conclusions	Formulates a simple thesis, generally supports it, and brings the subject to generally appropriate conclusions	Fails to formulate a thesis and/or bring the subject to appropriate conclusions	
Research Skills	Demonstrates skillful use of high-quality, credible, relevant sources to develop ideas that are appropriate for the discipline and genre of the writing	Demonstrates consistent use of credible, relevant sources to develop ideas that are appropriate for the discipline and genre of the writing.	Demonstrates an inconsistent use of credible and/or relevant sources to develop ideas that are appropriate for the discipline and genre of the writing.	Demonstrates an inadequate use of credible and/or relevant sources to develop ideas in the writing.	