Contemporary Issue Report – Grading Rubric

	Novice 45-55%	Competent 65-75%	Proficient 76-87%	Expert 88-100%
Issue 30%	The paper does not identify an issue of contemporary relevance to indigenous people of the Americas or alludes to an issue but does not identify or explain the issue.	The paper alludes to an issue of contemporary relevance to indigenous people of the Americas but does not clearly identify the issue or explains it poorly.	The paper identifies an issue of contemporary relevance to indigenous people of the Americas. The explanation of the issue may be slightly muddled or unclear.	The paper clearly and succinctly identifies and explains an issue of contemporary relevance to indigenous people of the Americas.
Significance 30%	The paper fails to make claims to the significance of the issue to current events.	The paper makes some claims to the significance of the issue to current events. Discussion of specific details or connections may be missing or unclear.	The paper effectively explains the significance of the issue to current events. Discussion of specific details or connections may lack some clarity or detail.	The paper expertly explains the significance of the issue to current events noting specific reasons and making larger connections.
Questions 30%	The paper does not pose historical questions or poses historical questions that lack a connection to the issue.	The paper suggests some historical questions raised by the event, but the questions lack clarity or development. The paper lacks connections to class readings or makes connections poorly.	The paper suggests some historical questions raised by the event. These questions may be unclear or not fully developed. Some attempt may be made to connect the issue to class readings.	The paper makes clear, poignant suggestions of historical questions raised by the event. If possible, the paper makes a direct connection to class readings.
Grammar, Syntax, Structure 10%	Paper has serious grammatical, syntax, spelling, or structural errors	Paper has some grammatical, syntax, spelling, or structural errors	Paper is largely free of grammatical, syntax, spelling, or structural errors	Paper has no grammatical, syntax, spelling, or structural errors