HSM 454 Written Assignment Rubric

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| Criteria | Poor 5 | Developing 10 | Competent 15 | Exemplary 20 | Total Points |
| Organization | Writing lacks logical  organization. It shows some coherence but ideas lack unity. Serious errors. | Writing is coherent and  logically organized. Some points remain misplaced and stray from the topic.  Transitions evident but not  used throughout assignment. | Writing is coherent and  logically organized with transitions used between  ideas and paragraphs to create coherence. Overall unity of  ideas is present. | Writing shows high degree of attention to logic and reasoning of points. Unity clearly leads the reader to the conclusion and stirs thought regarding  the topic. |  |
| Level of Content | Shows some thinking and  reasoning but most ideas are underdeveloped and unoriginal. | Content indicates thinking  and reasoning applied with original thought on a few ideas. | Content indicates original  thinking and develops ideas with sufficient and firm evidence. | Content indicates synthesis of ideas, in-depth analysis and evidences original thought and support for the topic. |  |
| Grammar &  Mechanics | Spelling, punctuation, and  grammatical errors create distraction, making reading difficult; fragments, comma  splices, run-ons evident.  Errors are frequent. | Most spelling, punctuation,  and grammar correct allowing reader to progress though assignment. Some errors remain. | Assignment has few spelling,  punctuation, and grammatical errors allowing reader to follow ideas clearly. Very  few fragments or run-ons. | Assignment is free of distracting spelling, punctuation, and grammatical errors; absent of fragments, comma splices, and run-ons. |  |
| Style | Mostly in elementary form  with little or no variety in sentence structure, diction, rhetorical devices or  emphasis. | Approaches college level  usage of some variety in sentence patterns, diction, and rhetorical devices. | Attains college level style;  tone is appropriate and rhetorical devices used to enhance content; sentence  variety used effectively. | Shows outstanding style going beyond usual college level; rhetorical devices and tone used effectively; creative use of sentence structure and coordination |  |
| Format and APA compliance | Fails to follow APA format (eg. in-text citations, reference page) an assignment requirements; incorrect margins, spacing and indentation; neatness of assignment needs attention. | Meets assignment  requirements with several APA (eg. in-text citations, reference page) errors; generally correct margins, spacing, and indentations; assignment is neat but may have some assembly errors. | Meets assignment  Requirements with few APA (eg. in-text citations, reference page) errors; margins, spacing, and indentations are correct; assignment is neat and correctly assembled. | Meets all APA (eg. in-text citations, reference page) and assignment  requirements and evidences attention to detail; all margins, spacing and indentations are correct; essay is neat and correctly assembled with professional look. |  |
| Total Points |  |  |  |  |  |