

# **CRIM 104: Theory Essay Marking Rubric**

Your paper is worth 30% of your final grade. It will be assessed using the following rubric. Make sure you read this rubric carefully and follow it. Please ask me if you have any questions or concerns.

## **1. Structure and Content of Essay (5/30):**

- Relevance of essay to assignment
- Clear and logical expression of ideas with arguments that are well presented and supported
- Degree of original and critical thought
- Grammar, punctuation, spelling, proper use of citations, and referencing
- Overall quality of essay

Make sure that you fully explain an idea before moving onto your next idea. Avoid generalizing or making broad sweeping statements. The paper is short, do not waste any space discussing issues that are not directly relevant to the essay. Make sure that you use credible sources and that all of your information is properly cited and referenced and use APA style. Proofread, proofread, and then proofread some more.

## **2. Analysis of Theory (15/30):**

- Degree of critical thinking
- Explanation and assessment of the theory selected for the paper
- Analysis of the limitations of the theory selected for the paper

An excellent paper does more than simply give the reader the highlights or main elements of the theory. Analyze the theory's basic assumptions and discuss its limitations. Your paper should allow the reader to understand the connections between the theory you have selected, the case study, and the behaviour.

## **3. Crime-Related Behavior (10/30):**

- Explanation/Analysis of your crime-related behavior
- Application of theory to the crime-related behavior

You need to discuss the essential elements that make up your criminal behavior and demonstrate how the theory or perspective you have chosen "makes sense" of both your case study and your chosen criminal behavior.

**Grading Rubric**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>Poor</b>
<b>Theory</b>	Theoretical premises and concepts are explained clearly and accurately.	Theoretical premises and concepts are explained clearly and with some accuracy.	Theoretical premises and concepts are explained unclearly and inaccurately.
<b>Research findings</b>	Relevant research findings incorporated accurately and precisely.	Relevant research findings incorporated with some accuracy.	Research findings incorporated inaccurately, or none were included.
<b>Reflection</b>	Abundant evidence of in-depth reflection on key research findings and theory.	Some evidence of in-depth reflection on key research findings and theory.	No evidence of in-depth reflection on key research findings and theory.
<b>Followed guidelines</b>	All required elements are included.	All but ONE of the required elements are included.	Several required elements are missing.
<b>Grammar and spelling</b>	No grammar or spelling issues	Some grammar and/or spelling mistakes	Grammar and spelling mistakes throughout