Grading Criteria for Research Essay

1. Controversial subject has been chosen
2. Thesis is clearly stated; your position on this controversy is clear
3. Paper contains insightful writing and accurate content
4. Your opinions and ideas drive this paper; it is NOT a collection of quotes or information from other sources
5. Credible sources are used to support your ideas (not commercial websites or questionable sources)
6. Proper documentation is used throughout the essay to give credit to these outside sources (MLA)
7. There is no evidence of plagiarism; all quotes and borrowed ideas have been clearly cited. You have submitted all drafts to Safe Assign.
8. The opposition is clearly explained and a strong argument from their side is presented.
9. You clearly refute the opposition’s one point with a logical response
10. Specific details, illustrations, examples, anecdotes are used to support your claims
11. You have a call-to-action conclusion
12. Your Works Cited page is correct and contains all of the necessary information
13. You have a Title page that includes your name, date, title of essay
14. Grammar and spelling errors have been corrected; quotations are used properly and with signal phrases
15. The paper should be about 5 pages in length and double-spaced
16. The paper must be written in third-person voice (no “I”, “you,” “we,” “us”).
17. All deadlines have been met