

# Student Essay Feedback Form

Name / Title

<b>Structure/Organisation</b>	excellent	very good	good	fair	poor
<i>Is the paper organised in a clear, useful and logical way? Does it avoid repetition and digression? Is it clear how different parts of the essay connect?</i>					
<b>Clarity/Language</b>	excellent	very good	good	fair	poor
<i>Are key concepts and principles described clearly? Are specialist terms used appropriately? Is the writing understandable to an average reader without problems?</i>					
<b>Focus/Topic</b>	excellent	very good	good	fair	poor
<i>Does the essay identify a sufficiently narrow and interesting question? Is the question distinguished from other possible questions? Are issues treated at the appropriate level of detail?</i>					
<b>Research/Literature</b>	excellent	very good	good	fair	poor
<i>Is important literature taken into account, and used appropriately? Are other authors summarised charitably? Does the author clearly distinguish between their own arguments and the secondary literature?</i>					
<b>Critical Thinking/Originality</b>	excellent	very good	good	fair	poor
<i>Does the author provide their own, independent line of argument? Are possible objections anticipated, and described fairly? Does the author note the limitations of their own argument clearly?</i>					
<b>Quality of Argument</b>	excellent	very good	good	fair	poor
<i>Is the central argument of the paper valid—that is, are its central steps logically convincing? Does it rest on plausible premises? Is the argument interesting—that is, does it show something new or unexpected?</i>					
<b>Difficulty</b>	very high	high	average	low	
<i>How philosophically demanding is the topic? Does it require a lot of background knowledge? Does the essay stick closely to existing positions and literature, or does it try to break new ground? Does it involve using formal methods (e.g., game theory)?</i>					

<b>Formal Aspects</b>	acceptable	minor flaws	major flaws	unacceptable
<i>Are secondary sources referenced consistently and transparently? Are grammar and spelling mistakes sufficiently rare? Does the essay conform with other formal requirements (length etc.)?</i>				
<b>General Comments</b>				
<b>Grading</b> (see below for scale)				
Grading is based on a holistic assessment of your essay, not just the categories and comments given above.				

#### GRADING SCALE

excellent	A (93-100)	Excellent work which contains an original and critical argument on a focussed, interesting topic. Good structure, clarity and use of literature are preconditions for these grades.
	A- (90-92)	
good	B+ (87-89)	Good work which deals with a philosophical topic in a circumspect and independent way, but suffering from weaknesses in some of the dimensions mentioned. Decent structure, clarity and use of literature are preconditions for these grades.
	B (83-86)	
	B- (80-82)	
satisfactory	C+ (77-79)	Decent work which shows some competence in dealing with the topic, but which has one or more major weaknesses.
	C (73-76)	
	C- (70-72)	
acceptable	D+ (67-69)	Work which shows honest and serious engagement with the topic, but which is significantly undermined by a crucial misunderstanding of the topic, or other severe shortcomings in terms of form, content, or both.
	D (63-66)	
	D- (60-62)	
fail	F (1-59)	Work in this category has been handed in late, fails minimal formal requirements, has been plagiarized, shows no serious engagement with the topic, or is otherwise unacceptable as a piece of academic work.