# AP Seminar Performance Task 1: Team Project and Presentation Scoring Guidelines

## **Individual Research Report (IRR)**

30 points

### **General Scoring Notes**

- When applying the rubric for each individual row, you should award the score for that row based solely upon the criteria indicated for that row, according to the preponderance of evidence.
- Read the whole report before assigning a score for any row.
- Reward the student for skills they have demonstrated. Demonstrating means that there is evidence that you can point to in the report.

### 0 (Zero) Scores

- A score of 0 is assigned to a single row of the rubric when the response displays a below-minimum level of quality as identified in that row of the rubric. For rows 1 to 4, if there is no evidence of any research (i.e., it is all opinion and there is nothing in the bibliography, no citation or attributed phrases in the response) then a score of 0 should be assigned.
- Scores of 0 are assigned to all rows of the rubric when the response is off-topic; a repetition of a prompt; entirely crossed-out; a drawing or other markings; or a response in a language other than English.

### NR (No Response)

A score of NR is assigned to responses that are blank.

| Reporting<br>Category                                      |   | Scoring Criteria   |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Row 1 Understand and Analyze Context (0, 2, 4 or 6 points) | O points  Does not meet the criteria for two points.  | 2 points  The report identifies an overly broad or simplistic area of investigation and/ or shows little evidence of research. A simplistic connection or no connection is made to the overall problem or issue.   | 4 points The report identifies an adequately focused area of investigation in the research and shows some variety in source selection. It makes some reference to the overall problem or issue.  | 6 points  The report situates the student's investigation of the complexities of a problem or issue in research that draws upon a wide variety of appropriate sources. It makes clear the significance to a larger context.  |  |  |
| politisy   | Typical responses that earn 0 points:  Provide no evidence of research (i.e., there is a complete absence of bibliography, internal citations, and attributive tags that point to a research source. If one of these is present, cannot score 0). | Typical responses that earn 2 points:  Address a very general topic of investigation (e.g. "pollution")  Draw mainly from one or two sources or poor-quality sources.  Provide an overly simplistic, illogical, or exaggerated rationale for the investigation (or does not provide a rationale at all). | Typical responses that earn 4 points:  Identify too many aspects of the topic to address complexity (e.g. "air, water, and land pollution").  May be overly reliant on research sources not appropriate for an academic task on this topic.  May provide a rationale about the significance of the investigation that lacks details necessary to address complexity. | Typical responses that earn 6 points:  Clearly state an area of investigation that is narrow enough to address the complexity of the problem or issue (e.g. "water pollution in India"). The context established is sustained throughout.  Predominantly include research sources appropriate for an academic task on this topic.  Provide specific and relevant detail to convey why the problem or issue matters/is important. |  |  |
|  |   | · ·  | paragraphs, but the whole report needs to sust<br>ished by sources actually used, especially acade   | ·  |  |  |

| Reporting<br>Category                               |   | Scoring Criteria   |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Row 2 Understand and Analyze Argument (0, 2, 4 or 6 | O points  Does not meet the criteria for two points.  | 2 points The report restates or misstates information from sources. It doesn't address reasoning in the sources or it does so in a very simplistic way.  | 4 points  The report summarizes information and in places offers effective explanation of the reasoning within the sources' argument (but does so inconsistently).   | 6 points  The report demonstrates an understanding of the reasoning and validity of the sources' arguments.* This can be evidenced by direct explanation or through purposeful use of the reasoning and conclusions.   |  |  |
| points)   |   | Decision Ru  | lles and Scoring Notes   |  |  |  |
|   | Typical responses that earn 0 points:  • Provide no evidence of research (i.e., there is a complete absence of bibliography, internal citations, and attributive tags that point to a research source. If one of these is present, cannot score 0). | Typical responses that earn 2 points:  Make no distinction between paraphrased material and response's commentary.  Demonstrate no instances of effective explanation. (For example, commentary is limited to restatement of quotes, is simplistic or overgeneralized, or shows misunderstanding of the source.)  Do not anchor ideas to sources (or does so generally, "research shows" or "some studies"). | Typical responses that earn  4 points:  Are dominated by summary of source material rather than explanation of sources' arguments;  Provide some instances of effective explanation of authors' reasoning.  Occasionally lack clarity about what is commentary and what is from the source material. | Typical responses that earn fopoints:  Provide commentary that explains authors' reasoning, claims or conclusions (direct explanation).  Make effective use of authors' reasoning, claims or conclusions (showing understanding of the sources) (purposeful use).  Attribute clearly source material (i.e., readers always able to tell what comes from what source) |  |  |
|   | <ul> <li>Reference to arguments from the commentary on a source.</li> </ul>   |  | al."  of paragraphs and / or immediately followin  hat source and what kind of source it is) mus   |  |  |  |

| Reporting<br>Category                                       | Scoring Criteria  |  |  |   |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| Row 3  Evaluate Sources and Evidence  (0, 2, 4 or 6 points) | O points  Does not meet the criteria for two points.  | 2 points  The report identifies evidence from chosen sources. It makes very simplistic, illogical, or no reference to the credibility of sources and evidence, and their relevance to the inquiry.  Decision Rul     | 4 points  The report in places offers some effective explanation of the chosen sources and evidence in terms of their credibility and relevance to the inquiry (but does so inconsistently).   | 6 points  The report demonstrates evaluation of credibility of the sources and selection of relevant evidence from the sources. Both can be evidenced by direct explanation or through purposeful use.  |
|   | Typical responses that earn 0 points:  Provide no evidence (i.e., there is a complete absence of bibliography, internal citations, and attributive tags that point to a research source. If one of these is present, cannot score 0). | Typical responses that earn 2 points:  Provide evidence that is either poorly selected or poorly explained (in terms of relevance and credibility).  Provide evidence that is irrelevant or only obliquely relevant. | Typical responses that earn 4 points:  Include descriptions but the attributions are insufficient to establish credibility.  Pay attention to the evidence, but not the source (may treat all evidence as equal when it is not).  Draw upon research that may be clearly outdated without a rationale for using that older evidence. | Typical responses that earn 6 points:  Provide descriptions in the attributions that effectively establish credibility of the source and relevance of evidence (direct explanation).  Make effective use of well-chosen, relevant evidence from credible academic sources (purposeful use). |
|   | <ul><li>well-selected and well-used.</li><li>Purposeful use, in this case, refer</li></ul>  | s to the deployment of relevant evidence   | ontext; Row 3 judges whether the increment<br>e from a credible source. Clear attribution, (order for the report to demonstrate "purpo   | i.e. readers are always able to tell what   |

| Reporting<br>Category                    | Scoring Criteria  |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| Row 4 Understand and Analyze Perspective | O points  Does not meet the criteria for two points.  | <b>2 points</b> The report identifies few and/or oversimplified perspectives from sources.**  | 4 points The report identifies multiple perspectives from sources, making some general connections among those perspectives.**   | 6 points The report discusses a range of perspectives and draws explicit and relevant connections among those perspectives.**  |  |
| (0, 2, 4, or 6<br>points)                | Typical responses that earn 0 points:   | Decision Rul Typical responses that earn 2 points:  | es and Scoring Notes  Typical responses that earn 4 points:  | Typical responses that earn 6 points:  |  |
|  | Provide no evidence of research (i.e., there is a complete absence of bibliography, internal citations, and attributive tags that point to a research source. If one of these is present, cannot score 0).                            | <ul> <li>May include oversimplified or vaguely attributed perspectives (it is unclear whether or not they are from sources).</li> <li>May identify information from sources (facts or topics or general stakeholder point of view) but not points of view as conveyed through arguments.</li> <li>Juxtapose perspectives but connections are not clear (they are isolated from each other)</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Include multiple perspectives and some instances of general connections.</li> <li>Repeat perspectives or connections rather than developing a nuanced, detailed discussion of how they relate.</li> <li>At times present perspectives that are clearly derived from specific sources, but may lapse into opinions or topics that are not clearly linked to specific sources.</li> </ul> | Go beyond mere identification of multiple perspectives by using details from different sources' arguments to explain specific relationships or connections among perspectives (i.e., placing them in dialogue).  Scoring note: There must consistently be clear attribution or citation linking perspectives to sources to score high. |  |
|  | Additional Notes  **A perspective is a "point of view conveyed through an argument." (This means the source's argument). Facts, topics, and general stakeholder points of view (e.g., "teachers" or "students") are not perspectives. |   |  |  |  |
|  |   | ion to organization of paragraphs (and p<br>transitions as effective transitions may sig  | ossibly headings) as it's a common way to gr<br>gnal connections among perspectives.   | oup perspectives.  |  |

| Reporting<br>Category                         | Scoring Criteria   |  |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| Category Row 5 Apply Conventions (0–3 points) | O points  Does not meet the criteria for one point.  Typical responses that earn O points:  Provide no evidence of research (i.e., there is a complete absence of bibliography, internal citations, and attributive tags that point to a research source. If one of these is present, cannot score O). | 1 point The report includes many errors in attribution and citation OR the bibliography is inconsistent in style and format and/or incomplete. | 2 points  The report attributes or cites sources used but not always accurately. The bibliography references sources using a consistent style.  Iles and Scoring Notes  Typical responses that earn 2 points (some errors):  Provide some uniformity in citation style.  Provide, perhaps with a few lapses, an organizational principle in bibliography/works cited (e.g., alphabetical or numerical)  Include unclear references or errors in citations, (e.g., citations with missing elements or essential elements that must be guessed from a url).  Provide some successful linking of citations to bibliographic references.  Provide some successful attributive phrasing for paraphrased material | 3 points The report attributes and accurately cite the sources used. The bibliography accurately references sources using a consistent style.  Typical responses that earn 3 points (few significant flaws):  Contain few flaws.  Provide clear organization principle i bibliography/works cited.  Provide consistent evidence of linkin internal citations to bibliographic references.  Include consistent and clear attributive phrasing for paraphrased material and/or in-text parenthetical citations.  Scoring note: The response cannot score points if key components of citations (i.e author/organization, title, publication, date) are consistently missing. |  |
|   | <ul><li>Check the bibliography for consi</li><li>Check for clarity/accuracy in into</li></ul>  | stency in style (and if there are fundame ernal citations.   | and/or in-text parenthetical citations.  however, responses must use a style that is ntal elements missing).  order for links to work in print, there must b  | consistent and complete.   |  |

| Reporting<br>Category                  | Scoring Criteria   |   |   |   |  |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| Row 6  Apply Conventions  (0-3 points) | O points  Does not meet the criteria for one point.  | 1 point The report contains many flaws in grammar that often interfere with communication to the reader. The written style is not appropriate for an academic audience.   | 2 points  The report is generally clear but contains some flaws in grammar that occasionally interfere with communication to the reader. The written style is inconsistent and not always appropriate for an academic audience.   | 3 points  The report communicates clearly to the reader (although may not be free of errors in grammar and style). The written style is consistently appropriate for an academic audience.              |  |
|  |  | Decision R  | Rules and Scoring Notes   |   |  |
|  | Typical responses that earn 0 points:  Contain no sentences created by the student. (If there are any sentences created by the student, cannot score 0). | Typical responses that earn 1 point:  May contain many instances where sentences are not controlled.  May rely almost exclusively on simplistic language (e.g., This is good. This is bad).  Employ an overall style that is not appropriate for an academic report; or colloquial tone.  Include many passages that are incoherent.  Provide too few sentences to evaluate or the student's own words are indistinguishable from paraphrases of sources. | Typical responses that earn 2 points:  Contain some lapses in sentence control (e.g., run-ons, fragments, or mixed construction when integrating quoted material).  Demonstrate imprecise or vague word choice insufficient to communicate complexity of ideas.  Sometimes lapse into colloquial language.  Use overly dense prose at the expense of coherence and clarity. | Typical responses that earn points: Contain few flaws which do not impede clarity for understanding of complex ideas. Demonstrate word choice sufficient to communicate complex ideas. Use clear prose. |  |
|  |  | is judged by its ability to clearly and p<br>nces written by the student, not thos  | orecisely articulate complex research conten<br>e quoted or derived from sources.   | t.  |  |

# **Team Multimedia Presentation (TMP)**

24 points

### **General Scoring Notes**

- Do not repeatedly rewind or re-listen to recorded presentations.
- There is a time limit. **Only the first 10 minutes** of any presentation are scored (excluding the oral defense).
- The defense is scored only after the presentation proper is scored. The defense does not impact the scores in Rows 1-4.

| Reporting<br>Category                            | Scoring Criteria  |   |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| Row 1  Establish Argument  (0, 2, 4 or 6 points) | O points  The presentation offers a series of unsubstantiated opinions. It is not academic in nature. | 2 points  The presentation describes the existence of a problem or reports on a problem, but does not argue for a team solution or resolution.  | 4 points  The presentation conveys the argument for the team's solution or resolution using evidence that is not well selected for the situation.   | 6 points  The presentation conveys the convincing argument for the team's solution or resolution through strateg selection of supporting evidence.  |  |
|  | Typical responses that earn 0 points:   | Typical responses that earn 2 points:  Provide only individual solutions rather than a team solution (offer a series of unconnected individual arguments).  Present individual reports yoked by a very broad theme or offer evidence related to a topic (rather than an argument).  Identify a team solution that is not explained, justified, or supported.  Argue for the existence of a problem with a solution tagged on at the very end.  Demonstrate almost no principles of selection and emphasis.  Have a solution that needs a lot of work to infer.  Offer a solution that has little or no connection to the problem. | Typical responses that earn 4 points:  Present a clear and coherent argument for a team solution but only some claims are supported by evidence.  Demonstrate selection and emphasis that are not always controlling: at times may have instances of extraneous information or too much for time limit; at times may lack focus demonstrated in digressions or repetition.  Offer a solution that has some logical connection to the problem, but it is weak (for example, overgeneralized, oversimplified)  Demonstrate only some logical connection among speakers. | <ul> <li>Typical responses that earn 6 points:         <ul> <li>Present a clear, coherent, and complex argument for the team solution.</li> <li>Make the logic of the argument clear through strategic selection of key claims and relevant supporting evidence.</li> <li>Contain only relevant material sufficient to successfully make the argument within the given time limit (any repetition is effective).</li> <li>Present a viable and convincing solution that is tightly connected to the argument and illustrates the complexity of the issue.</li> <li>Demonstrate mostly consistent, logical connection among speaker</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |  |

| Reporting<br>Category                                      | Scoring Criteria  |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| Row 2  Understand and Analyze Context (Evaluate Solutions) | O points  The presentation does not identify or only minimally identifies solutions, either the team's or others' (e.g., a list of solutions with brief annotations). | 2 points  The presentation describes pros and/or cons of potential options related to the topic.  OR  The presentation describes limitations or implications of the solution proposed by the team, but in an inconsistent, illogical, overly broad, or otherwise unconvincing manner. | 4 points The presentation explains the pros and/or cons of potential options and situates the team's proposed solution in conversation with them. AND The presentation evaluates the solution proposed by the team by thoroughly explaining its limitations or implications. |  |  |
| points)  | Typical responses that earn 0 points:  • Meet neither of the rubric criteria for 2 points.  | Typical responses that earn 2 points:  • Meet one of the rubric criteria or partially meet both criteria.   | Typical responses that earn 4 points:  • Fully meet both rubric criteria.  |  |  |
|  | Additional Notes  |   |  |  |  |

| Reporting<br>Category               | Scoring Criteria   |  |   |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| Row 3                               | 0 points   | 2 points   | 4 points  | 6 points   |  |  |
| Engage<br>Audience<br>(Performance) | The presenting is entirely inappropriate for the audience, purpose or context.   | All or all but one of the presenters make little or no use of techniques to engage the audience.   | At times, some presenters (i.e. more than one) effectively engage the audience. As a team the presenters demonstrate uneven delivery or performance techniques. | All presenters effectively engage the audience through strategic intentional use of performance techniques most of the time.   |  |  |
| points)                             |  | Decision Rul   | les and Scoring Notes   | 1  |  |  |
|                                     | Typical responses that earn 0  | Typical responses that earn 2 points:  | Typical responses that earn 4 points:   | Typical responses that earn 6 points:  |  |  |
|                                     | points:  | <ul> <li>Have only one presenter that uses strategies to effectively engage the audience.</li> <li>Have no presenters that use strategies to effectively engage the audience.</li> </ul> | Have at least two presenters use strategies to effectively engage the audience at least some of the time (but others don't).                                    | <ul> <li>Have all presenters use strategies to effectively engage the audience (most of the time).</li> <li>Scoring note: There may be minor lapses at this level, but they do not detract from</li> </ul> |  |  |
|                                     |  |  |   | the overall impression of an engaging presentation.  |  |  |
|                                     | Additional Notes   | •  |   |  |  |  |
|                                     | Performance techniques that do no  | ot engage the audience include:  |   |  |  |  |
|                                     | Lack of eye contact with audience (e.g. staring at slides, at note cards, into space, or at the floor).  |  |   |  |  |  |
|                                     | Lack of vocal variety, monotone, or mumbling.  |  |   |  |  |  |
|                                     | Rate of speech is too fast to be comprehensible or too slow to maintain interest.  |  |   |  |  |  |
|                                     | Being distracted by presenter support materials (e.g. note cards, slides, or teleprompters). Reciting from memory or teleprompter in a way that compromises connection with the audience (as if not talking to actual people). |  |   |  |  |  |
|                                     | Lack of energy (seem bored by the project).  |  |   |  |  |  |
|                                     | Movement that is distracting (e.g. fidgeting, swaying, slumping, excessive hand movements for no strategic purpose) or complete lack of movement.  |  |   |  |  |  |
|                                     | Effective performance techniques to engage the audience include:   |  |   |  |  |  |
|                                     | Eye contact with audience.   |  |   |  |  |  |
|                                     | Vocal variety is used to emphasize important information (e.g., volume, pause, rhetorical question).   |  |   |  |  |  |
|                                     | Effective rate of speech (controlled, well-paced, not rushed or overly dense with information).  |  |   |  |  |  |
|                                     | Use of presenter support mater   | rials (e.g. note cards, slides, or teleprompte   | ers) does not compromise connection to the  | audience.  |  |  |
|                                     |  | e presentation supporting materials (e.g. vi   | suals, slides, handouts, posters).  |  |  |  |
|                                     | Energy (seem interested in the   | project).  |   |  |  |  |
|                                     | Movement (gestures serve to e  | mphasize key points).  |   |  |  |  |

| Reporting<br>Category          | Scoring Criteria   |  |   |  |  |
|--------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|
| Row 4 Engage Audience (Design) | <b>O points</b> The presentation demonstrates no design or minimal design with significant errors.   | 2 points  The presentation's design demonstrates an understanding of media and design elements but does not enhance the team's message, or does so inconsistently.   | 4 points  Overall, the design clearly guides viewers through the presentation and demonstrates strategic selection of media and design elements that help clarify the argument for the team's solution.   |  |  |
| (0, 2, or 4<br>points)         | Decision Rules and Scoring Notes   |  |   |  |  |
| • • •                          | <ul> <li>Typical responses that earn 0 points:         <ul> <li>Provide visuals that may be little more than blocks of pasted information or informal notes.</li> <li>Provide little or no signposting to guide audience.</li> <li>Demonstrate no clear principle of visual design across speakers.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Additional Notes</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Typical responses that earn 2 points:         <ul> <li>Provide visuals that guide the audience through the argument but are at times illogical, confusing, or otherwise ineffective (in terms of signposting, emphasis).</li> <li>Include several visuals that display information overload or a poor selection of supporting words and images (decorative but not argumentatively purposeful, or unreadable in the time frame they are shown).</li> <li>May include visuals that contain some noticeable, significant errors.</li> <li>Demonstrate inconsistent visual and design cohesion across the team (e.g., hierarchy of information, cohesion of imagery, metaphor, parallel structure).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Typical responses that earn 4 points:         <ul> <li>Provide visuals that overall serve a clear purpose in organizing or advancing the team argument (such as signposting, emphasis).</li> <li>Include well-chosen words and images throughout to highlight key points or information.</li> <li>Present visuals that contain little clutter or visua "noise"; they enhance rather than compete with the speaker's message, there are no extraneous images or "data dumps".</li> <li>Create cohesion through consistency of design across the team throughout.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |  |  |

| Reporting<br>Category                            | Scoring Criteria  |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| Row 5  | 0 points  | 2 points   | 4 points  |  |  |
| Collaborate<br>Reflect<br>(0, 2, or 4<br>points) | All or all but one member of the team offer generic responses that could apply to any collaborative project. Or the answers by all or all but one of the team may be unacceptably brief.                                    | Two or more of the responses in the oral defense support their answers with some relevant evidence specific to the team's project. | All responses in the oral defense articulate detailed answers to the question asked and support those answers with relevant evidence specific to collaboration on this project.  AND  The answers in the oral defense taken together with the presentation demonstrate roughly equal participation from all team members. |  |  |
|  |   | <b>Decision Rules and Scoring Notes</b>  |   |  |  |
|  | Typical responses that earn 0 points:   | Typical responses that earn 2 points:  | Typical responses that earn 4 points:   |  |  |
|  | <ul> <li>Have only one presenter that provides specific<br/>and relevant evidence about the team's project.</li> <li>Have no presenters that provide specific and<br/>relevant evidence about the team's project</li> </ul> | Have at least two presenters provide specific and relevant evidence about the team's project.                                      | Have all presenters provide specific and relevant<br>evidence about the team's collaborative work,<br>and answer the question posed.  |  |  |
|  | Additional Notes  |  |   |  |  |