

Features	Description	Range	Comments
Explanation & argument	<p>includes a thesis statement in the introduction that answers a focused research question developed from the topic chosen in the research paper proposal</p> <p>paper mainly provides an analysis of a problem but ends with a brief explanation and justification of recommended solutions</p> <p>shows clear and effective organization, such as by using (a) a sequence of topic sentences at the beginnings of sections, subsections, and paragraphs that follow a logical outline and (b) unified paragraphs</p>	10% High Mid Low	
Technical- Political Science balance	expresses effective synthesis (does not need to be 50/50)	15% High Mid Low	
Accurate use of concepts	concepts key to audience understanding of the topic you've chosen are presented accurately and with an amount of detail that fits your purpose	10% High Mid Low	
Research, Integration of knowledge, & analysis	<p>provides a thoughtful, informed, and accurate analysis of your answer to the research question</p> <p>integrates research effectively (e.g., research is used to support the writer's explanation and argument (rather than replace it; sources of ideas, facts, words, and expert analysis/opinion are acknowledged)</p> <p>selective and thoughtful use of sources aimed at creating new knowledge by synthesizing and extending the work of others through a mix of summary, paraphrase, and quotation</p>	20% High Mid Low	

Professional style	<p>congruent with the IJOIS journal article style (and readership)</p> <p>security focus (in the class context: nuclear security)</p> <p>research-based analysis and conclusions</p> <p>uses formal language (concise, not colloquial, precise)</p> <p>avoids jargon (i.e., unnecessary and unexplained use of technical language)</p>	<p>10%</p> <p>High</p> <p>Mid</p> <p>Low</p>	
Conformity to conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 5-6 pages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ includes cover page with an appropriate title and abstract ○ includes separate reference page ○ includes section headings ○ header block and date in correct format (comment, no deduction) ○ page numbers (except cover page) ○ 12-point Times New Roman font throughout (including page numbers) ○ 1.25" side margins, 1" top margins, and .5" bottom margins ● At least six acceptable sources (includes at least one relevant book, chapter of book, or peer-reviewed paper) ● no more than two assigned readings ● accurate use of APA style for in-text references and reference list <p><i>one error -5, two -10, three or more -15</i></p>	<p>10%</p> <p>High</p> <p>Mid</p> <p>Low</p>	
Copy editing & use of standard language	<p>meets the standard for a final product in a professional setting</p>	<p>5%</p> <p>High</p> <p>Low</p>	
Quality of revision & rationale		<p>20%</p> <p>High</p> <p>Mid</p> <p>Low</p>	
Overall Comments:			