Human Capital Lab Research Fellows Program Rubric

Directions: Consider the following criteria when recommending whether a paper should be published by the Human Capital Lab. Not all elements must be present or satisfied; this is a guideline for your analysis.

Submit your comments in the body of an e-mail, along with your recommendation to *Publish* or *Return to Author* with feedback and needed improvements to ridouglas@bellevue.edu.

Note to authors: Papers submitted that largely align with these criteria are more likely to be accepted with few or no changes. This rubric is a guideline for your consideration.

Criteria	Excellent	Needs Improvement
Title, Introduction, Conclusion	Title includes both subject and a hint about the thesis or point of view; engaging introduction that prepares the reader accurately for the body paragraphs; thought-provoking or interesting conclusion that ties everything together and includes a call for action (what readers should think, do and/or feel)	Confusing title; introduction and/or conclusion insufficiently align with the body of the essay
Thesis/Focus	Has a clear thesis (purpose) in the first paragraph that continues to be the focus of the paper	Thesis is implied or absent, or is stated, but the paper doesn't connect back to it
Organization	One main idea per paragraph, good use of transitions, clear topic sentences, smooth connections between paragraphs	Many ideas per paragraph, missing topic sentences, abrupt transition, and/or missing or rough connections between paragraphs
Development: Support	Uses specific, concrete, relevant details, examples, evidence and numerous references to credible source material	Lacks sufficient details and examples to support ideas; has insufficient or irrelevant evidence
Development: Analysis	Explains the connections between evidence and main ideas thoughtfully and thoroughly, makes connections explicit, discusses implications, relevance or significance.	Does not clearly explain connections between evidence and ideas; does not elaborate beyond basic or obvious conclusions, and/or analysis is too general or brief to be convincing
Sentence Craft & Style	Demonstrates excellent use of language; precisely chosen words, complex and varied sentence structure; appropriate tone and style. Is direct and uses active voice.	Vague and abstract language; words misused; some sentences are monotonous or choppy tone or style may be inappropriate for the paper
Mechanics: (Grammar and spelling)	Is free of spelling, punctuation and grammatical errors	Has errors in diction grammar, punctuation, spelling, etc.