

Grading Criteria: Critical Analysis Essay			
	excellent (max pts)	good (mid pts)	poor (low pts)
• Purpose and aims	Accurately & completely communicates the following: <i>purpose</i> (why the research was done) and <i>aims</i> (what particular approach, questions, or experiments address that purpose)	Inaccurately or incompletely identifies either purpose or aims	Fails to identify purpose or aims
• Discusses how results lead to conclusions	Correctly identifies main argument of paper and how authors used results obtained to argue for conclusions	Incomplete description of argument or of how authors used results to arrive at their conclusions	Little or no accurate description of argument or authors' conclusions
• Analyzes those aspects of article that are clear or confusing to student reader	Analyzes whether the student found particular aspect(s) helpful or inadequate for him/herself as audience	Simple evaluation of article (good, difficult, etc.) without analysis	Fails to analyze whether the student found particular aspect(s) helpful or inadequate for him/herself as audience
• Organization and style	Organizes essay to assist reader's understanding. Paragraphs have topic sentences; easy for reader to access. Correct use of grammar.	A few problems with organization and/or style	Very poor organization and style throughout the essay
• Broader implications and future directions	Speculates about broader implications of research and future directions for study	Fails to speculate about broader implications of research OR future directions for study	Fails to speculate about broader implications of research AND future directions for study
• Format	Stapled copy submitted with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your name • BIOS 202 • Date • Word count • Full reference • Copy of article 	Missing one required formatting criterion	Missing two or more required formatting criteria

Assessment Sheet**BIOS 202: Critical Analysis Essay****Student name** _____

Strengths of paper:

	EXCELLENT	GOOD	POOR	
Purpose and aims of article	___/5	___/3	___/1	
Discusses how results lead to conclusions	___/4	___/2	___/0	
Analyzes those aspects of article that are clear or confusing to student reader	___/4	___/2	___/0	
Organization and style	___/4	___/2	___/0	
Broader implications and future directions	___/4	___/2	___/0	
Format requirements	___/4	___/2	___/0	
TOTAL				___/25

Suggestions for improvement: