

Economics 336 Term Paper
Grading Checklist

Criteria on which your term paper is evaluated:

1. Coherence and clarity
 - Does the paper have an “executive summary” that clearly summarizes the main argument?
 - Are the ideas expressed concisely and organized logically?
2. Use of economic concepts and methods
 - Does the paper make reference to key economic concepts discussed in lectures, such as efficiency, equity, and excess burden?
 - Is adequate evidence used to support the argument?
3. Appropriate use of primary and secondary sources
 - Are the basic facts about the policy studied clearly and concretely explained?
 - Is evidence from academic and government research cited?
4. Originality and relevance of argument
 - Does the paper have a clear thesis or policy position?
 - Are the arguments of central relevance to the assigned topic?
 - Are the arguments in the paper innovative? Sensible? Significant?
5. Grammar, punctuation, spelling, style, and citation form
 - Is the paper relatively free of grammatical and spelling errors?
 - Is the language and writing style clear and to the point?
 - Is there excessive reliance on quotation from other documents?
 - Are references to others’ work clear and in the approved citation style?

Citation and reference style

- All works consulted should be included in the reference list at the end of the paper
- When specific use, other than trivial, is made to a fact or argument derived from one of the references, it should be cited in the text.
- Students must avoid plagiarism – see <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>
- References/citations should be in the text in the MLA style – see <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/documentation?start=1>