**MODEL RUBRIC – LONGER PAPER for DR. JUHL’S THEATRE CAPSTONE**

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|  | Excellent | Proficient | Acceptable | Unacceptable |
| Thesis: The degree of its clarity and effectiveness.50 points | The thesis is highly innovative, very clearly answers a compelling central question, and delineates a narrowly defined argument focused on one aspect of the company’s performance work. | The thesis is somewhat innovative, answers an interesting central question, and delineates an adequately narrow argument focused on one aspect of the company’s performance work. | The thesis is adequate in that it answers a central question and delineates a somewhat narrow argument focused on no more than two aspects of the company’s performance work. | The thesis does not answer a central question that is implicitly or explicitly discernable and focuses on a broad argument that deals with more than two aspects of the company’s performance work.  |
| Complexity of Arguments:The ways in which your arguments support the thesis. 100 points | The major arguments in the paper are highly innovative, support the thesis in creative ways, and are extremely complex in that they very clearly deal with all appropriate “framing questions” in the assignment prompt. | The major arguments in the paper are somewhat innovative, clearly support the thesis, and are somewhat complex in that they deal with many of the appropriate “framing questions” in the assignment prompt. | The major arguments are not particularly complex, do not always clearly support the thesis, and deal cursorily with a few of the “framing questions” in the assignment prompt.  | The major arguments are not at all complex, only occasionally support the thesis, do not deal with many, if any, of the “framing questions” in the assignment prompt. |
| Engagement of Research: The ways in which you present your ideas in relationship to the ideas you discover through your research.100 points | The major argument progresses as a compelling conversation that assertively features both agreement and disagreement with the writers of a complex set of primary and secondary sources. | The major argument progresses as a clear conversation that often features both agreement and disagreement with the writers of a somewhat complex set of primary and secondary sources. | The major argument progresses as an occasionally clear conversation that sometimes features both agreement and disagreement with writers of a marginally complex set of primary and secondary sources. | The major argument does not progress as a clear conversation and tends to feature agreement, rarely disagreement, with primary and secondary sources. |
| Organization: The delineation of the thesis statement, the effectiveness of topic sentences, transitions, and signposts.50 points | The thesis statement is very clearly delineated and easy to identify. All paragraphs begin with strong and clear topic sentences, transitions beautifully connect sentences and paragraphs in logical ways, and and signposts effectively tie all arguments to the thesis of the paper. | The thesis is clearly delineated and somewhat easy to identify. Most paragraphs begin with clear topic sentences, most transitions clearly connect sentences and paragraphs in logical ways, and there are many effective signposts tying most arguments to the thesis. | The thesis is difficult to identify and only marginally well delineatied. Some paragraphs begin with clear topic sentences, some transitions connect sentences and paragraphs, and some effective signposts tie some arguments to the thesis. | The thesis statement is not at all clear and is difficult to identify. Few paragraphs begin with topic sentences, there are few effective transitions, and virtually no signposts that tie arguments to the thesis. |
| Awareness of Conventions:The paper follows MLA conventions of formatting.50 points | The paper is always and consistently formatted using MLA conventions and guidelines. | The paper has minor flaws in the use of MLA conventions and guidelines. | The paper has major flaws in the use of MLA conventions and guidelines. | The paper does not follow MLA conventions and guidelines in a correct or consistent way. |

**Comments:**