

CCP3 APPLICATION ESSAY QUESTIONS RUBRIC

FALL 2025 COHORT 5

CRITERIA	EXCELLENT	PROFICIENT	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT	UNSATISFACTORY
ORGANIZATION Logical structure and flow.	Logical, coherent flow of ideas. Effective use of paragraphs and transitions. Strong introduction and conclusion.	Mostly logical flow of ideas. Paragraphs are well-structured. Clear introduction and conclusion.	Some issues with flow & transitions. Inconsistent paragraph structure. Weak or underdeveloped introduction/conclusion.	Disorganized, hard to follow. Poor or missing paragraph structure. Missing or ineffective introduction/conclusion.
GRAMMAR Accuracy and attention to detail in language use, including punctuation and spelling	Error free in grammar, punctuation, and spelling. Uses a variety of sentence structures. Consistently follows academic style.	Few minor errors in grammar, punctuation, and spelling. Uses appropriate sentence structures. Mostly follows academic style.	Noticeable errors that affect readability. Limited sentence variety. Inconsistent academic style.	Frequent errors that impede understanding. Repetitive or awkward sentence structures. Fails to follow academic style.
CLARITY & STYLE Ease to which the main points are conveyed.	Writing is clear, engaging, and concise. Effective word choice enhances meaning. Consistent tone for academic writing.	Generally clear and readable. Adequate word choice, but not always precise. Mostly maintains an academic tone.	Writing is sometimes unclear or awkward. Word choice is basic or inappropriate. Inconsistent or inappropriate tone.	Writing is confusing or difficult to read. Poor word choice impedes understanding. Tone is informal or unprofessional.
ADHERENCE TO GUIDELINES Addressing all aspects of the assigned question.	Addresses the prompt at a superior level. Gives strong details & personal insights. Demonstrates a deep understanding of the topic.	Meets the threshold for addressing prompt, giving supporting details and shows a good understanding of the topic.	Addresses the prompt, but does not go into detail or depth. Limited supporting examples.	Does not address the prompt and/or does not describe specific actions. Shows little understanding of the topic.