

PEA Best Undergraduate Paper Contest Rubric

Student Name (PEA 2016–01 to 0--): _____ Evaluator Name: _____

Yes Test: You must receive all “yesses” for your paper to be scored. Any “no” will stop the process.

Yes	No	Basic Requirement
		1. Paper typed including abstract with JEL Classification Codes and Keywords
		2. Thesis clearly stated in the introduction and/or referenced in the conclusion
		3. Correct documentation style used in text
		4. Citing evidence with a minimum of 4 sources
		5. Works Cited/Bibliography or References accurate and correctly formatted
		6. Paper meets minimum length standard (at least 7 pages, excluding title and Works Cited/Bibliography or References)
		7. Paper meets maximum length standard (at most 25 pages including title, abstract, references and appendix)
		8. Evidence of consistent and conscientious editing
		9. Use of 12 point font (e.g. Times New Roman font) and double spacing
		10. Paper meets APA guidelines with appropriate pagination and margins (http://www.apastyle.org/)

- 4—Clearly a knowledgeable, practiced, skilled pattern**
3—Evidence of a developing pattern
2—Superficial, random, limited consistencies
1—Unacceptable skill application

Use of Sources

Skill application demonstrates use which represents →	4	3	2	1
Researched information appropriately documented				
Enough outside information to clearly represent a research process				
Comprehensiveness of the literature review				
State of references (majority of references should be current and updated)				
Demonstrates use of paraphrasing, direct, and indirect quotations				
Information connects to the thesis				
Sources on Works Cited/Bibliography or References accurately match sources cited within the text				

_____/28

Content/Organization

Skill application demonstrates use which represents →	4	3	2	1
Attention grabber effectiveness in abstract				
Introduction engaging and clearly defines thesis and statement of the problem				
Thesis is challenging and focused				
Research motivation and project linkage explained				
Depth of research hypothesis beyond general knowledge				
Depth, comprehension and illustration of content				
Content connecting to thesis is clarifying and exploring				
Content connecting to thesis is explaining and developing				
Soundness of the underlying theory and/or econometric model				
Rigor of the underlying theory and/or econometric model				
Depth of analysis of the theoretical/empirical findings and results				
Consistency of the policy recommendations with the findings				
Text organization flows sensibly and smoothly				
Conclusion thoughtful, engaging, and clear				
Future extension of research clearly explained				

_____/60

Mechanics/Usage/Spelling/Format

Skill application demonstrates use which represents →	4	3	2	1
Usage/Grammar and correct spelling				
Correct paragraphing				
Written in formal style				

_____/12

Information Literacy

Skill application demonstrates use which represents →	4	3	2	1
Consistent Format (APA)				
Evidence of thorough research				
Documentation demonstrates conscientious application of citing ethics				
Evidence of sorting and selecting appropriate material				
Evidence of importance of author’s credibility and validity				
Research offers non-biased, fair research perspective from which a conclusion is drawn				
Research information goes beyond surface information				

_____/28

Total Score: _____/128 Total Percentage: _____%

