**English 1301: Argument Essay**

| **CRITERIA** | **DESCRIPTION**  | **COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS** |
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| **Introduction** | Introduction engages readers and establishes context skillfully. |  |
| **Thesis** | Thesis is clear, specific, and argumentative.  |  |
| **Argument** | Presents a nuanced position with sophisticated reasoning. Claims build a compelling case. |  |
| **Evidence &** **Support**  | Evidence from all 4+ sources is relevant, credible, and strategically selected.  |  |
| **Counter-argument**  | Skillfully addresses opposing viewpoints with fairness and depth. Refutation is logical, respectful, and strengthens the overall argument. |  |
| **Integration & Discussion of Evidence**  | Sources are seamlessly integrated with sophisticated analysis connecting evidence to claims. |  |
| **Organization & Structure**  | Logical flow with effective transitions between all paragraphs.  |  |
| **Paragraph Development**  | Each paragraph has clear topic and concluding sentences that advance the argument. Paragraphs are cohesive, focused, and fully developed. |  |
| **Conclusion** | Conclusion synthesizes arguments effectively and provides thoughtful implications. |  |
| **Language & Style**  | Academic tone maintained throughout. Precise word choice and varied sentence structure. Language effectively persuades while maintaining objectivity. |  |
| **Grammar & Mechanics**  | Virtually error-free. Demonstrates mastery of standard written English. |  |
| **APA Format & Citations**  | Perfect APA formatting throughout. In-text citations and References page follow all APA 7th edition guidelines. |  |