PVCC Writing Rubric	Excellent (4)	Proficient (3)	Developing (2)	Poor (1)	Grade:
Purpose and Audience	 There is a clear and effective thesis. The paper addresses the writing task in an interesting, new, and/or thought-provoking way. The main idea is consistent throughout the paper. Language, style and tone are consistently sophisticated, well-considered, and effective for the audience and context 	 There is a thesis, but it could be worded more precisely or placed more effectively. The topic and points address the writing task in a reasonably challenging way. Most of the paper ties in to the main idea. Language, style and tone are appropriate for the audience and context. 	 The thesis is somewhat hard to pin down and could be more focused or more specifically address the topic. The topic and points may not adequately address the writing task or could be more challenging. Sections of the paper do not tie into the main idea. Language, style and tone are sometimes inadequate or imprecise for the audience and context. 	 The thesis is unclear, ineffective or absent. This paper does not address the writing task or mostly states the obvious. The topic shifts without maintaining a clear focus. Language, style and tone are inappropriate for the audience and context. 	Writing Center Required Writing Center Recommended Does not fulfill assignment requirements Additional Comments:
Idea Development and Support 4 3 2 1 Organization 4 3 2 1	 There is an engaging introduction and conclusion. There are thought-provoking points to support the main ideas. There is specific, relevant information or examples to support each point. There are sufficient, well-chosen and well-integrated quotations and paraphrases from carefully-selected sources, as appropriate. Ideas are presented in a logical order with well-chosen transitions to connect ideas. The topic of each paragraph is explicit and clear. 	 The introduction and conclusion are appropriate but could be more engaging or specific. There are several good points to support the main ideas. Most points are well-supported and explained, but others remain underdeveloped. Most quotations and paraphrases, are from acceptable sources and are sufficient, effective and integrated. Most ideas are presented in a logical order; transitions, though simplistic, connect ideas in most cases. The topic of each paragraph is somewhat clear but could be more explicit. 	 The introduction and conclusion are incomplete. Supporting points are present but are often ineffective or lacking complexity. Information is lacking; explanations are vague, underdeveloped, unclear or not adequately tied to the main idea. Quotations and paraphrases, though present, may be insufficient, from questionable sources and/or not integrated appropriately. Ideas are presented in a somewhat illogical order, and /or transitions are ineffective to connect ideas. It is difficult, at times, to pin down what each paragraph is about. 	 The introduction and conclusion are missing or inadequate. The points/reasons in the paper do not effectively support the paper's main ideas. Supporting information and explanations are undeveloped, missing or incorrect. There are no quotations and paraphrases, or these are from unacceptable sources. Ideas are not presented in a logical order, and transitions are often missing, making ideas seem disconnected. There is little sense of paragraph division or order; sentences are randomly placed in paragraphs. 	Comments.
Grammar and Conventions 4 3 2 1	 This paper is practically error-free. Sentence construction is sophisticated, varied and interesting. 	 There are only a few minor proofreading or punctuation errors; major grammatical errors, if present, do not interfere with ideas. Sentences are clear. 	 There are consistent problems with punctuation, spelling or capitalization, or there are major grammatical problems Occasional sentences are too wordy, repetitious, awkward or confusing. 	 Poor grammar and mechanics make it difficult to understand this paper. Sentences are often difficult to understand. 	
Presentation and Documentation 4 3 2 1	 Proper documentation is used with virtually no error. The paper is formatted correctly. 	 Documentation contains minimal, minor errors. The format is sometimes incorrect, needing a few minor adjustments. 	 Documentation is consistently problematic. The format is consistently problematic. 	 Documentation is either missing or incorrect. The paper does not follow a correct or recognizable format. 	