

	Criteria				Score	Weight	Points	
	90-100	80-90	70-80	0-70				
Title	Clearly and briefly indicates paper's content (subject, purpose of study, key terms).	Indicates paper's content, but is longer and/or wordier than needed. May be missing one of the following: subject, purpose of study, or key terms.	Esoteric terminology or length of title obscures content. Missing more than one of the following: subject, purpose of study, or key terms.	Title is unclear regarding paper's content. Esoteric terminology and length issues present. Missing key information.		5%		
Introduction	Clearly states importance of topic; poses specific question, engages the literature in a clear narrative, and clearly states objectives.	States importance of topic, poses question, engages literature, and addresses some objectives. May be slightly lacking clarity/focus in one of these components.	Importance of topic is unclear or missing; guiding question is too vague, selected literature is irrelevant, and/or goals may be missing or nebulous.	Importance of topic is unclear or missing; guiding question is not present, literature is not engaged, and goals are not related to question.		20%		
Methods	Methods are clear, complete, and concise; knowledgeable researcher could easily repeat the study	Methods are complete, but may be unclear or lengthy; knowledgeable researcher could repeat the study	Methods are not complete, and may be unclear or wordy; knowledgeable researcher could repeat the study only with difficulty	Descriptions of parts of procedures are missing; methods are unclear; knowledgeable researcher could not repeat the study		15%		
Results & Discussion	Clearly lists study's findings, thoroughly interprets results, tables/figures plainly illustrate findings, and discussion questions fully addressed	Study's findings are mentioned; interpretation present, but needs clarification, tables/figures illustrate results but could be clearer, and/or discussion questions not fully addressed	Study's findings are unclear, and interpretation incorrect or needs to be refocused, tables/figures do not clearly illustrate results, and discussion question answers incomplete	Study's findings are incomplete and unclear, interpretation is too brief, unclear, and/or incorrect, appropriate information missing from tables/figures, and discussion question answers incomplete and/or incorrect		30%		
Conclusion	Main findings are clearly summarized; brief, clear interpretation present	Main findings are summarized and interpretation present but may lacking in clarity or brevity	Main findings are incomplete and/or interpretation is missing; overall lack in clarity or brevity in this section	Conclusions are unfocused with extraneous information given; main findings missing or severely lacking; interpretation missing		15%		
Bibliography	10 relevant and mostly journal articles cited (may include 1-2 book citations)	10 relevant citations; references may contain too many book citations	10 citations; references may be irrelevant and/or contain too many book or web citations	<10 citations; references irrelevant and contain book and web citations		10%		
Format & grammar	Geoderma formatting of references used; table/ figure font size readable; figures/tables captioned appropriately; obvious attention to detail shown; good grammar throughout	Formatting of references may be inconsistent, table/figure font size unreadable, figures/tables captioned but description unclear, and/or attention to detail somewhat lacking; easy to read but grammar may be poor in sections	Inconsistent and/or unclear formatting issues affecting presentation of content; attention to detail lacking; grammar issues present throughout	Poor and inconsistent formatting; figures/tables unclear; attention to detail missing; difficult to read due to poor grammar		5%		
Total Points →								