

**POL 385, Law and Society, Fall 2002**  
**Brett Marston**  
**17 September 2002**

### **Paper Grading Criteria**

Your paper is evaluated according to the following grading criteria:

- 1) *Summary*: Does the paper give a clear, concise, and accurate summary of the issues at stake? Does the student engage the case in a deep and thoughtful manner? Does the paper reflect such engagement with the case—does the student bring up the key issues and relevance of the controversy?
- 2) *Analysis*: How interesting/thoughtful/penetrating/persuasive is the student's argument? Does the essay have a thesis which is then developed throughout the paper? How well does the paper back up the thesis arguments with textual evidence? Is the argument fair to the controversy; that is, does the student consider objections to his or her criticism?
- 3) *Organization*: How well can a reader follow the paper's argument? Does the essay follow an overarching principle of organization? Does the argument progress in logical, coherent moves?
- 4) *Style*: Is the paper written well? Does the author use clumsy metaphors or large words in inappropriate ways? Does the author use needless words? Is the language vague and abstract?
- 5) *Mechanics*: Has the paper been proofread? Is it printed in a legible font with clear ink? Are there grammatical/spelling/punctuation errors? Is the paper too short? It is several pages too long?