# Final article expectations & rubric

In many ways, grading students' articles are the most difficult to do given the subjectivity involved in such assessment.

*Do I like the topic? Do I like the narrative style? And, what if I don't?*

I want to eliminate the subjectivity, for the most part, so I have created a list of expectations, as well as a rubric.

## *Minimum* expectations for final, longform articles
- Approximately 2,000 words
- No *fewer* than five human sources
- Academic studies, public data or verified data sources
- Proper nouns are spelled correctly and titles are accurate
- Topic represents reasonable news value/s
- Language and journalism conventions are followed (proper grammar, spelling and attribution throughout the project; consistent use of AP Style)
- Based on course readings, there is a narrative flow (beginning, middle, end)
- Deadline is met

If you fail to meet the deadline, you will receive 0/20 points and get an F.

If you fail to meet more of the expectations than you meet, you will receive 10 to 14/20 for an F to C-, which in the master's program, is failing.

If you meet more expectations than you fail to meet, you will receive 15/20 points for a "C". This is average, but passable in the graduate program.

If you meet most of the expectations, but exceed some of them, you will receive 17 to 18/20 points for a "B/A-". This is a good article by any convention.

If you exceed *all* of the expectations, you will receive a 19 to 20/20 for an A. This is a great article. (And that 20/20 means it is perfect… but no one has ever earned that.)