

**Thesis-defense paper feedback sheet**

PHI 333 Philosophy of Science

Jared Bates, Fall 2009

<u>Mechanics &amp; Organization</u>  ____/10	10 (Excellent)	Virtually no problems with format, length, spelling, grammar, adherence to style guidelines, or overall logical organization.
	8-9 (Very good)	Minor problems, possibly several throughout the paper, but no serious difficulty with intelligibility.
	6-7 (Satisfactory)	No more than a few significant problems, but some creating minor problems with intelligibility.
	<6 (Deficient)	More than a few significant problems; some significant problems with intelligibility in important places.
<u>Issue &amp; Thesis Statement</u>  ____/20	19-20 (Excellent)	Presents issue clearly and compellingly; gives clear, explicit thesis statement; gives argument strategy/plan for the paper.
	16-18 (Very good)	Presents issue clearly and provides strong, explicit thesis statement.
	14-15 (Satisfactory)	Gives brief discussion of issue or vague thesis statement, but indicates clear direction of the paper.
	12-13 (Deficient)	Gives both brief discussion of issue and has serious problems with thesis statement (perhaps lacking).
	<12 (Unacceptable)	Presentation of issue or thesis statement missing; moves directly into discussion of arguments without appropriate indicators for the reader.
<u>Positive Arguments</u>  ____/30	27-30 (Excellent)	Clearly presents appropriate argument(s) with thorough and careful attention and support given to <i>all</i> main logical steps.
	24-26 (Very good)	Chooses argument appropriate to thesis, and gives a thorough exposition of its main logical steps.
	21-23 (Satisfactory)	Acceptable argument choice, but either some main logical steps insufficiently discussed or revealing minor mistakes.
	18-20 (Deficient)	Main argument either inappropriate for thesis, incompletely reconstructed, or revealing some significant mistakes.
	<18 (Unacceptable)	Main argument missing, seriously incomplete, or hard to identify.
<u>Objections &amp; Responses</u>  ____/25	23-25 (Excellent)	Gives compelling presentation of relevant and important objections; convincingly defends thesis from them.
	20-22 (Very good)	Chooses strong objections, though presentation is perhaps brief/weak; effectively defends thesis.
	18-19 (Satisfactory)	Considers objections by comparing other views, but no specific objection to the thesis defended; or misses major standard objections to the thesis.
	15-17 (Deficient)	Brief or partial critical discussion of objections/alternatives.
	<15 (Unacceptable)	Critical discussion of objections/alternatives missing.
Total: ____/85		

Refer to the original assignment sheet for objectives for the first draft of the paper and for expectations on the various aspects of the assignment (including the style guide). Use the feedback given above and in comments written on your paper to prepare your final draft.

The final draft is worth 35 points, and will be evaluated by (i) the intrinsic merits of the final draft on the criteria described for the first draft above, and (ii) the degree to which your final draft is responsive to the comments you received on the first draft. Refer to the original assignment for *some* elaboration. When turning in your final draft, make certain to turn in your first draft with this form attached!