# APA Assignment Rubric

| **Criteria** | **Exceeds Expectations (4)** | **Meets Expectations (3)** | **Approaches Expectations (2)** | **Does Not Meet Expectations (1)** |
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| **APA Format** | Entire paper is double-spaced with 1” margins, 12pt font, New Times Roman (or another acceptable font). Title page is formatted with Title, name, school name, course code, instructor name, and date centered and double-spaced. All pages include page numbers. | Paper is double-spaced with 1” margins and 12pt font. Title page is mostly correct with minor formatting issues (e.g., one element slightly off-center). Page numbers are present but may have a minor error in placement. | Paper is mostly double-spaced, with some minor spacing or font errors. Title page is incomplete or incorrectly formatted (e.g., missing one or two required elements). Page numbers are present but not formatted consistently. | Paper has major formatting issues (e.g., incorrect spacing, margins, or font size). Title page is missing several required elements or formatted incorrectly. Page numbers are missing or inconsistent. |
| **In-text Citations** | In-text citations are used consistently and correctly. All necessary elements (author’s last name, year of publication, and page/paragraph number for direct quotes) are included in parentheses after cited material. Citations are punctuated correctly with no errors. | In-text citations are used correctly with minor errors. Most citations include necessary elements (e.g., author’s last name and year), but a few may be missing details or have minor punctuation mistakes. | In-text citations are used but may frequently lack necessary elements (e.g., missing year or page number for direct quotes). Punctuation may be inconsistent or incorrect in several instances. | In-text citations are missing or rarely used. When included, they are often missing key elements (author’s name, year, page number) and/or are incorrectly punctuated. |
| **Quality of Sources** | Sources are primarily peer-reviewed professional journals or other approved sources (e.g., government documents, agency manuals). All sources are credible, and the reader is confident that the information and ideas can be trusted. | Sources are mostly peer-reviewed journals or approved sources. A few may be from less formal but still credible sources (e.g., reputable websites or magazines). The reader can generally trust the information presented. | Sources include a mix of peer-reviewed, approved, and non-academic or less credible sources. The credibility of the information may be somewhat questionable, leaving the reader with some doubts. | Sources are not peer-reviewed or credible. They may come from non-reputable websites, blogs, or other unverified sources. The reader cannot trust the reliability of the information or ideas. |
| **References Page** | Page is formatted correctly with all references listed in alphabetical order. Every reference has at least one accompanying in-text citation. References include all required APA style elements, with punctuation and capitalization correct. Hanging indent is used consistently and accurately. | Page is mostly formatted correctly, with references in alphabetical order. Most references have accompanying in-text citations. References include most APA elements, but there may be minor errors in punctuation, capitalization, or indentation. | Page shows some effort in formatting, but references may not be fully in alphabetical order, or some in-text citations may be missing. Several references are missing key APA elements, with frequent errors in punctuation, capitalization, or hanging indent. | Page is poorly formatted. References are not in alphabetical order, many references are missing, or they lack accompanying in-text citations. APA elements, punctuation, capitalization, and indentation are incorrect or missing in most references. |