

Comparative Essay

BASIC CORE		EXPANDED CORE	
Historical skills and knowledge required to show competence.		Historical skills and knowledge required to show excellence.	
1. Has acceptable thesis. (Addresses comparisons of the issues or themes specified.)	1	Expands beyond basic core of 1-7 points. The basic core score of 7 must be achieved before a student can earn expanded core points.	0-2
2. Addresses all parts of the question, though not necessarily evenly or thoroughly. (Addresses most parts of the question.)	2 (1)	Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has a clear, analytical, and comprehensive thesis. • Addresses all parts of the question (as relevant): comparisons, chronology, causation, connections, themes, interactions, content. • Provides ample historical evidence to substantiate thesis. • Relates comparisons to larger global context • Makes several direct comparisons consistently between or among societies. • Consistently analyzes the causes and effects of relevant similarities and differences. 	
3. Substantiates thesis with appropriate historical evidence. (Partly substantiates thesis with appropriate historical evidence.)	2 (1)		
4. Makes at least one or two relevant, direct comparisons between or among societies.	1		
5. Analyzes at least one reason for a similarity or difference identified in a direct comparison.	1		
Subtotal	7	Subtotal	2
Total 9			

Comments: