Southern New Hampshire University

POL 491 Policy Analysis Rough Draft Guidelines and Rubric

For Milestone Two, you will submit a rough draft of your policy analysis. Your policy analysis should include a well-thought-out, original thesis that argues for the policy resolution of an issue or problem at the federal level. Your policy analysis should be directed to a particular audience that has some stake in the outcome of the policy (i.e., officials, lawmakers, practitioners, donors, etc.), as policy analyses often require a consideration of how to devise recommendations that resolve the issue for that particular audience.

Guidelines for Submission: Your first draft should contain all of the required elements and sections highlighted in the rubric below. Your rough draft should be 6–8 pages in length (excluding title and reference pages) and formatted to APA guidelines. You must include at least five scholarly sources. Cite your sources within the text of your paper and on the reference page.

Use the following checklist rubric to guide you in writing your rough draft:

Critical Elements	Meets Expectations (100%)	In Progress (75%)	Does Not Meet Expectations (0%)	Value
Define the Problem: The submission not only identifies a specific issue and articulates why it is important, but also establishes a set of criteria for evaluating the problem in question				22.5
Develop a Thesis: Develops a well-thought-out thesis that will underline why and how the problem needs to be addressed by policy alternatives				22.5
Review the Topic: After establishing the topic and thesis, the submission provides a review of the literature and an evaluative review of current polls about the topic, using both primary and secondary sources				22.5
Alternatives and Recommendation: Based on the thesis, what should be the main policy for addressing the problem? The submission uses an analysis of alternatives to recommend a policy action and articulates reasons, supported by facts and evidence, why the policy proposal chosen would be the best avenue for addressing the issue in question				22.5
Articulation of Response: Submission contains no major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization				10
			Earned Total	**100%**