Rubrics for Undergraduate Psychology Learning Outcomes

Instructor: Please indicate the number of papers you review that fall into the categories outlined below.

Relevant review and integration of the literature.

____ 5 = Virtually all citations are clearly and logically related to the research question posed.
____ 4 = While the literature cited is linked to the research question the logic is not clear for some citations.
____ 3 = Most citations are related to the research question but they are not logically integrated.
____ 2 = Most citations are loosely related to the research question and lack a coherent theme.
____ 1 = Most citations are not clearly and logically related to the research question.

Demonstrates understanding and critical analysis of the problems in the literature reviewed.

____ 5 = Clearly presents analysis of the literature cited that points to their strengths and limitations relative to the research question.
____ 4 = Clearly presents an analysis of the strengths and limitations of the literature cited but does not relate the analysis to the research question.
____ 3 = Demonstrates an appreciation of the methodological strengths and limitations of some of the research cited.
____ 2 = Describes the methodology used for the important studies cited.
____ 1 = Fails to present an analysis of the literature cited. Author merely summarizes research.

The paper is clearly organized.

____ 5 = The author uses a logical outline consistent with APA style that uses a “funnel” technique in the literature review that clearly leads to the research question and hypotheses, and the methods, results, and discussion clearly point to the research question and hypotheses.
____ 4 = The paper is appropriately organized but the transitions may be weaker making it harder for the reader to follow.
____ 3 = The paper is organized under standard APA headings, but the relationship between literature review, research questions, methods, results, and discussion is hard to follow.
____ 2 = The paper follows standard APA organization and headings with some deviations in presentation order and the organization of the literature review, methods, results, and discussion is hard to follow.
____ 1 = The paper does not follow standard APA organization and headings.

Paper conforms to APA style requirements and uses standard grammar and mechanics.

____ 5 = With few exceptions paper conforms to APA style, uses standard grammar, and has few punctuation, spelling, and other mechanical errors.
____ 4 = Paper conforms to APA style but contains technical mistakes in grammar or mechanics or has more than a few spelling errors.
____ 3 = Paper generally conforms to APA style but may contain technical errors in citations headings or other matters, but contains relatively few mechanical or grammatical errors.
____ 2 = Paper generally conforms to APA style and standard grammar and mechanics, but may contain more than a few technical errors in both APA style and the use of standard grammar, spelling, and punctuation.
____ 1 = Paper contains numerous major errors in either APA style or the use of standard grammar or mechanics.
The paper uses appropriate statistical and/or graphical analysis.

___ 5 = The statistical and/or graphical analysis would be acceptable for a graduate level paper.
___ 4 = The statistical and/or graphical analysis is appropriate considering limitations of the project in terms of such factors as number of participants or trials.
___ 3 = The project used statistical and/or graphical analysis that did not allow for obtaining maximum information relative to any limitations imposed by the conduct of the study.
___ 2 = The project used statistical and/or graphic analysis that was not appropriate but was correctly performed.
___ 1 = The project uses analytical methods that were neither appropriate nor correctly performed.

An appropriate interpretation of data was presented.

___ 5 = The data were interpreted to the standards expected in a graduate level paper.
___ 4 = The data were generally interpreted appropriately with the exception of small technical errors.
___ 3 = The data were generally interpreted appropriately but with non technical use of language.
___ 2 = The presentation showed inappropriate interpretations but reflected some understanding of principles of analysis.
___ 1 = The presentation showed inappropriate interpretation of data and reflected a lack of understanding of basic principles of data interpretation.