

GCWS Motherboard Writing Prize Evaluation Rubric

This rubric will be used to evaluate submissions for the annual GCWS Motherboard Writing Prize.

As of 2022, we will select a winning submission written by an eligible student in a Masters program and a winning submission written by an eligible student in a PhD program. The qualities that will be considered when evaluating the essays remain the same for both groups of students. However, you may need to adjust your standard for what constitutes outstanding work relative to the level of experience of each of these categories of students.

1. Does this submission fulfill the GCWS Mission? These first three evaluative categories are based on the three central tenets of GCWS: interdisciplinarity, innovation, and intersectionality. *Please rate the items in this section on a scale from 1-5, with 5 being the highest.*

Evaluative Categories	Discursive Notes <i>any brief comments you want to make to contextualize your score</i>	Score from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest)
<u>Interdisciplinarity</u> : Interdisciplinarity is the first of the three tenets central to the GCWS mission. Does this essay move across disciplinary boundaries?		
<u>Innovation</u> : Innovation is the second of the three tenets central to the GCWS mission. Is this essay original? Does it bring a fresh perspective to its topic(s)?		
<u>Intersectional Perspective</u> : Intersectionality is the third of the three tenets central to the GCWS mission. Does this essay display an awareness of intersectional considerations at play in its topic(s)? You might also consider here, if relevant, how the author takes their own positionality into account.		
<i>Overall Score:</i>		

2. How well is this submission written? These evaluative categories have to do with the quality of the submission as a piece of scholarship: including the quality of thought, research, and the submission’s contribution to the field. *Please rate the items in this section on a scale from 1-3, with 3 being the highest.*

Evaluative Categories	Discursive Notes <i>any brief comments you want to make to contextualize your score</i>	Score from 1 (lowest) to 3 (highest)
<u>Intellectual Sophistication:</u> Does the essay show complexity, nuance, and analytic depth?		
<u>Possible Contribution to Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies:</u> Does this essay make a contribution to women’s, gender, and/or sexuality studies?		
<u>Cohesiveness:</u> Does the essay have a central argument that the writer advances clearly and cohesively over the course of the essay?		
<u>Research Quality:</u> Has the writer cited the extant research relevant to their topic? Does the writer indicate how their argument builds on and/or departs from prior work on their topic(s)?		
<u>Quality of Prose:</u> Is the prose clear and precise? Has the essay been proofread?		
<i>Overall Score:</i>		

Total Score: