

MECH 431 REPORT

COLD FUSION

GRADING RUBRIC

Fall 2006

	Excellent (max pts)	Good (mid pts)	Poor (low pts)
Quality of historical discussion (20%)	Accurately and completely describes the experiments conducted, their significance, and the public reaction to the work	Inaccurately describes the historical facts <i>or</i> omits details crucial to understanding the controversy	Description of the historical facts is inaccurate <i>and</i> incomplete
Quality of technical analysis (35%)	Considers scientific, experimental, and ethical aspects of the controversy. Engages the science to support points.	Only discusses two of the three aspects of the controversy. Incompletely or inaccurately engages the science to support points.	Only discusses the controversy from a single perspective or omits the science from the discussion.
Quality of conclusions (15%)	Derives conclusions logically from the points raised in the discussion. Provides clear lessons to be learned that are appropriate to an audience of young engineers.	Conclusions are weakly connected to discussion or derive from opinions rather than facts. Does not adequately address interests of an audience of young engineers.	Fails to make any conclusions, or provides conclusions based on opinion and without connection to points in the discussion. Fails to consider audience needs and interests.
Abstract (10%)	Summarizes entire report succinctly and in appropriate number of words.	Omits 1-2 aspects of the report or exceeds word count by over 25 words.	Provides an inadequate summary of the paper, writes abstract as an introduction, and/or exceeds word count by more than 50 words.
Organization and style (15%)	Organizes discussion logically, uses forecasting topic sentences to guide reader through argument, uses correct grammar.	Occasional grammatical errors; document not organized to aid understanding.	Organization or grammatical errors are distracting.
Format and references (5%)	Word count as specified; document is fully referenced with reputable sources.	One formatting or reference criterion missing.	Two or more formatting or reference problems.