<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Level (1-4)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **STIA Topic and Argument**    | • Argument is clearly stated and integrates a sophisticated understanding of key concepts in science and technology in international affairs.  
                                 • Paper meets assignment guidelines with an international focus or focus that is applicable to an international problem.  
                                 • Writer explicates and critiques science and technology issues in his/her own words in a way that is both clear to a lay reader and demonstrates understanding of the technical material. |             |
| **Analysis and Critical Thinking** | • Thinking is clear, logical, and consistent with the technical facts and relevant uncertainties.  
                                 • Analysis is motivated by research questions.  
                                 • Examples illustrate and expand upon the general theme of paper.  
                                 • Writer defines major terms clearly early in the paper and uses them consistently.  
                                 • Conclusions follow from the statement of the problem and the analysis and include action or policy recommendations as appropriate. |             |
| **Research**                   | • Research analysis shows originality and goes beyond a summary of the literature and a recounting of the history of the issue.  
                                 • Incorporates a balanced mix of academic sources and topical sources.  
                                 • Displays understanding of quantitative and qualitative methods in research and applies them appropriately.  
                                 • Quotations are used only when paraphrase would be inadequate. |             |
| **Structure and Style**        | • 25-30 pages in length  
                                 • Organized appropriately with an introduction, background section, well constructed subheadings, and a conclusion that follows from the background and analysis.  
                                 • Argument follows logically in fluid but succinct prose (without repetitions or inconsistencies) with sophisticated word choice.  
                                 • Writing is of a publishable quality according to the standards of a typical undergraduate research journal. |             |
| **Mechanics**                  | • Prose consistently meets expectations for Standard Edited US English (grammar/punctuation) with evidence of proofreading.  
                                 • Prose demonstrates sentence-level fluency.  
                                 • Page numbers, subheadings, margins, and spacing are consistent with assignment guidelines.  
                                 • Uses consistent and correct citation formats. |             |

**OVERALL RATING______________**

Key: 1 = Not Competent; 2=Emerging Competence; 3=Competent; 4 = Highly Competent