O'Dell Physics Final Project Rubric

Projects are due before or on the day of your final. Projects will be uploaded to Turnitin.com. No exceptions. The projects will be scanned for plagiarism and degree of originality. The goal of the report is to be able to pass it to someone else and they will be able to repeat your experiment exactly without fail and achieve similar results. A maximum of 100 points can be earned, this grade is non-negotiable as a Spring Semester Final Exam grade – it is BIG…

CATEGORY	**0 – 9 points**	**10 – 19 points**	**20 points**
FORMAT	The format was mostly not followed.	The format was mostly followed but there are still some errors.	Report has a cover page with title, class, date, and name(s). It is typed using a 12 point font double spaced. It uses tables for data and has section titles centered and bolded. There are NO spelling errors.
REPORTING SECTIONS	One or more reporting sections are missing.	Reporting sections are there, but the information is not in the right section or there is another anomaly that would cause the reader to be unable to repeat the experiment.	Contains the following sections: Purpose, Hypothesis, Experiment Design (list of constants, the variables you changed), Procedures, Results, Materials, Conclusion, Brief Research Report on any background info you had to research, Bibliography
GRAPHS AT – A - GLANCE	Graphs are confusing and do not express your data accurately or easily. Graphs are messy or disorganized.	Graphs are neatly done but are missing one or more required components. The reader must ask the author or dig deeper to find meaning to the graph.	Graphs are made by a computer program such as Excel, Word or other. They show a title, X and Y axes titles and units, legend, data points and a trend line **so that in one glance it is obvious what your results are**.
WRITING QUALITY	There are spelling errors or grammar errors. There is little to no academic language used. There is poor sentence and paragraph flow.	Your writing is moderately academic with very few spelling / grammar errors. The language is moderately academic, more appropriate scientific words could have been used instead. In general the quality is acceptable but could be improved.	Writing is of academic quality. You demonstrate a definite skill in starting and ending paragraphs and sentences. Scientific words and vocabulary are used correctly and for a reason, not just to use big words. Slang and elementary school descriptions of processes are not used. Spelling and Grammar are all correct.
TOPIC DIFFICULTY	Your topic is something a 3rd grader could do, and is probably doing right now. **Your topic has overly predictable results from the very beginning and is more like a demonstration and not a true science investigation.**	Your topic is moderately difficult. You had to overcome sources of error that would affect your experiment. You were able to control things and showed a good attempt at proper scientific experimental design. **The results of your topic are not immediately predictable.** You had to go through the project to actually determine what the relationships were between the factors you changed and ones you observed.	You chose a topic that is unique, your methods were innovative, your topic was difficult to measure and difficult to perform experiments with but you were able to get solid results and find a trend in your data. **Your results are not very predictable at all,** and that's what makes your experiment a true science investigation. After the experiment **you are able to find solid, previously unknown relationships between your variables.**