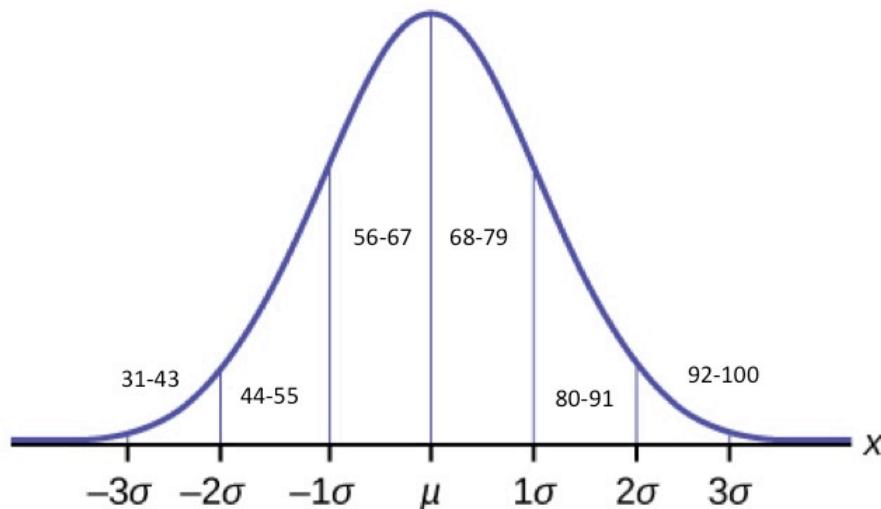


PSYC 302: Infancy (Fall, 2016)  
Paper #1: Psychology in the News  
Marking Rubric

Your paper will be evaluated using the **four** criteria listed below, on a normal distribution with a mean centred around 68%. That is, the majority of papers (2/3 of them) will score between 56 and 79 on each criterion. Above-average papers (about 13% of them) will score between an 80 and 91 on each criterion. Below-average papers (about 13% of them) will score between 44 and 55 on each criterion. Truly excellent examples of scholarly work (in the top 2.5% of the papers turned in) may score between 92 and 100 on each criterion. Unacceptable work may score lower than the figures presented here.



### Criteria

- I. Paper conforms to the guidelines for article choice and format.  
a. Popular news article comes from a media source between 2014 and 2016 (*unless approved in writing in advance; please attach a copy of that written approval to your paper*)  
b. Popular news article is **not** from a scientific journal  
c. Scholarly article **is** from a scientific journal  
d. Topic concerns psychological development in infants between conception and age 3  
e. Paper is 2 pages double-spaced, 12-point font (may be slightly less, but not more than 2 pages; does not include reference list)

f. Sources (the popular news article, the scholarly source, and any others) are cited in APA format in the text and in the reference list \_\_\_\_\_

II. Paper describes the scholarly article in coherent detail. \_\_\_\_\_

- Student describes the theory or existing knowledge on the subject before the scientific article was written.
- Student describes the research question outlined in the scientific article.
- Student states the hypotheses of the authors.
- Student describes the variables of interest and how they are operationalized (methods).
- Student summarizes the results of the scientific study.
- Student briefly recaps the conclusion of the study.
- Student addresses the scientific article in light of the course material.

III. Paper characterizes the media's portrayal of the scientific article. \_\_\_\_\_

- Student summarizes the media's main points regarding the article.
- Student assesses whether the media portrayed the article fairly/completely.
- Student specifies what aspects of the scientific article were left out of the media's coverage.
- Student identifies any inaccuracies, if any, in the media's interpretation of the scientific article.
- Student examines a lay reader's ability to understand the scientific findings from reading the popular media article alone.
- Student identifies what question a lay reader may have after reading the popular media article.

IV. Paper is written with a quality appropriate for the university level. \_\_\_\_\_

- Paper has evidently been proofread and does not contain any typographical errors.
- Grammar and spelling usage is consistent with the standards of academic writing.
- Word usage is appropriate for scientific writing.
- Paper flows coherently and is easily understood by a reader.

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

÷ 4

**Score** \_\_\_\_\_