Your Grading Criteria for the Humanities Unit – Fall 2006

1. **Introduction**: The introduction should mention the book, the artworks to be discussed, and transition from general to specific with a clear thesis statement at the end. It should comprise no more than one full page.

2. **Thesis Statement**: The thesis statement should clearly and specifically state the topics of analysis and the manner in which the analysis should proceed.

3. **Analysis**: The paper should present thorough analyses of four artworks, two by Matisse and two by Picasso, with one not analyzed in Flam’s book. The analysis should address the specific topics mentioned in the thesis in some depth and support the claims with evidence from the paintings. The evidence for the analyses should be argued through the images in the paintings and the events of the artist’s life. The analysis should include all three degrees of analysis, presenting the basics of the composition such as the subject and the colors, the interpretation or the meanings of the images, and a discussion of how the background and context of the artist’s life and times might be used to interpret the images. It should display at least some creative thinking and not borrow all of its ideas from other sources.

4. **Organization**: Each paragraph/section should begin with a topic sentence that links the point of the paragraph/section to the thesis statement. The paper should progress in a natural way, with some sort of rationale to the organization that is made clear to the reader.

5. **Clarity**: The paper should be easy to follow and have appropriate word choice and sentence structure.

6. **Professionalism**: The paper should have an academic tone and should correctly attribute the ideas of others to those people. It should be as error-free as possible as concerns grammar and punctuation.

7. **Conclusion**: The conclusion should be include both a summary of the paper, even if only in one sentence, and also contribute some greater understanding that could be gained or was gained from the analyses in the paper. It could indicate a connected topic of investigation to which the research has contributed or explain the purpose or greater context in which the analyses play a role. No new evidence should be presented.

8. **Format**: The paper should be in Chicago style format, with an optional bibliography. It should be four to six pages long without the artworks and should include attachments of all of the artworks analyzed, which should be in color.