

Assessment Criteria and Rubrics

Outcome #1 – Demonstrate critical thinking and creativity.

Assessment based on Thesis.

Assessment items: connection between the various components and overall logic behind the research.

Criteria	Evidence of excellent performance (5)	Evidence of satisfactory performance (3)	Evidence of unsatisfactory performance (1)	Comments
Content development	A tie among major research components is very strong. Overall logic behind proposed research is flawless.	A tie among major research components is satisfactorily provided. Overall logic behind proposed research is reasonable, with some minor issues of concern.	A tie among major research components is weak. Overall logic behind proposed research pose major concerns.	Main content and context with respect to research logics.
Evidence	Research objectives address identified problems very well. Proposed methods are logical and reasonable to achieve the objectives. Conclusions are well-supported by research methods and findings. Contribution to the existing body of knowledge is convincingly presented.	One of the evidences in the excellence category is missing.	Two or more of the evidences in the excellence category are missing, thus requiring a major restructuring of the thesis.	Supporting evidence.
Sources	References are up-to-date, adequate, and integrative. Methods implemented for the study are logical and well-supported by the literature.	References used to identify existing problems are either outdated or inadequate. Methods implemented for the study present some minor issues of concern.	References used to identify existing problems are neither up-to-date nor adequate. Methods implemented for the study present some major issues of concern.	Source material that is used to extend, in purposeful ways, writers' ideas in a text.
Syntax and mechanics	Thesis is written very well in standard English, and easy to	Thesis conveys intended meaning.	Poorly written, thus failing to convey intended meaning.	Writing fluency, clarity, and language.

	follow. Paragraphs are well-connected and support each other in a logically convincing way.	Some minor language improvement are needed.	Substantial language improvement is required.	
Overall assessment	A very strong tie between the various research elements is provided in a logically convincing way.	A reasonably strong tie between the various research elements is provided in a logically convincing way.	A tie between the various research elements is missing, thus requiring restructuring of the thesis.	Reviewer's assessment based on all of the above criteria.

Outcome #2 – Demonstrate complex problem solving and decision-making.

Assessment based on Thesis.

Assessment items: problem statement.

Criteria	Evidence of excellent performance (5)	Evidence of satisfactory performance (3)	Evidence of unsatisfactory performance (1)	Comments
Content development	Identifies gaps in existing knowledge in a logical way. Gaps are stated meticulously in sufficient detail.	Identifies gaps in knowledge with some ambiguities. Gaps are stated in detail with undefined terms and background.	Identified gaps are either unclear, or they are addressed in an illogical way. Information is presented without any logical interpretation and evaluation.	Identification of research gaps in existing knowledge and subsequent efforts to fill the gaps in connection with the research objectives.
Sources	References used in an attempt to identify existing problems are up-to-date, adequate, and integrative.	Some references used in an attempt to identify existing problems present minor issues of concerns, such as being outdated or inadequate.	References used are neither up-to-date nor adequate.	Source material that is used to extend, in purposeful ways, writer's ideas in a text.
Syntax and mechanics	Problem statement is very well-written, and easy to follow. Paragraphs support each other in a logically convincing way.	Convey intended meaning in clarity. Some language improvements are needed.	Problem statement is poorly written, thus failing to convey intended meanings. Substantial language improvements are required.	Writing fluency, clarity, and language.
Overall assessment	Problem statement convincingly presents existing problems in a logical way, with breadth and depth of the chosen field of research.	Problem statement is satisfactory in the way it is presented.	Problem statement is unsatisfactory in the way it is presented.	Reviewer's assessment based on all of the above criteria.

Outcome #3 – Demonstrate effective professional oral and written communication.

3.a. Written assessment based on Thesis.

Assessment items: “Literature Review” section.

Criteria	Evidence of excellent performance (5)	Evidence of satisfactory performance (3)	Evidence of unsatisfactory performance (1)	Comments
Content development	Uses appropriate, relevant, and compelling content to illustrate mastery of the subject, conveying the writer's understanding of the discipline.	Uses appropriate, relevant, and compelling content to explore ideas within the context of the discipline.	Uses inappropriate and/or irrelevant content to develop ideas.	The ways in which the text explores and represents the topic in relation to its audience and purpose.
Conventions	Demonstrates attention to details and successful execution of a wide range of conventions particular to organization, content, presentation, formatting, and style.	Follows expectations appropriate to the discipline for basic organization, content, and presentation.	Makes attempts to use a consistent system for basic organization and presentation, but is unsuccessful in most cases.	Formal and informal rules for text that guide formatting, organization, and stylistic choices in the writing of an academic paper.
Sources and evidence	Demonstrates skillful use of high-quality, credible, relevant sources to develop ideas that are appropriate for the discipline.	Demonstrates an attempt to use credible and/or relevant sources to support ideas that are appropriate for the discipline.	Demonstrates an attempt to use sources to support ideas in the writing.	Source material that is used to extend, in purposeful ways, writers' ideas in a text.
Syntax and mechanics	Uses graceful language that skillfully communicates meaning to readers with clarity and fluency, and is virtually error free.	Uses language that generally conveys meaning to audience with clarity, although writing may include some errors.	Uses language that sometimes impedes meaning because of errors in usage.	Writing fluency, clarity, and language.
Overall assessment	Demonstrates excellent written communication.	Demonstrate satisfactory written communication.	Demonstrates unsatisfactory written communication.	Reviewer’s assessment based on all of the above criteria.

Outcome #5 – Be able to understand and apply principles of leadership in business and management.

Assessment based on Thesis.

Assessment items: significance of research.

Criteria	Evidence of excellent performance (5)	Evidence of satisfactory performance (3)	Evidence of unsatisfactory performance (1)	Comments
Content development	Significance statement addresses appropriately and clearly the research significance to the body of knowledge in the specific area of study.	Significance statement addresses the research significance to the body of knowledge in the specific area of study. Minor changes would have improved it.	Significance statement does not address the research significance to the body of knowledge in the specific area of study.	Evaluation of the significance statement in relation to the body of knowledge in the specific area of study.
Evidence	Significance statement is clearly resulting from the specific research findings and conclusions.	There are some minor unexplained gaps between the significance statement and the specific research findings and conclusions.	It is unclear how the significance statement has resulted from the specific research findings and conclusions.	Evaluation of the significance statement in relation to the specific research findings and conclusions.
Syntax and mechanics	Uses graceful language that skillfully communicates meaning to readers with clarity and fluency, and is virtually error free.	Uses language that generally conveys meaning to readers with clarity, although writing may include some errors.	Uses language that sometimes impedes meaning because of errors in usage.	Writing fluency, clarity, and language.
Overall assessment	Compelling content and well-organized writing that illustrates mastery of the subject.	Relevant content to develop and explore ideas through most of the work in a convincing way.	Simple ideas in some parts of the work, thus requiring major restructuring.	Reviewer's assessment based on all of the above criteria.

Outcome #7 – Demonstrate the ability to solve complex construction problems taking into account associated risk management issues.

Assessment based on Thesis.

Assessment items: “Research Methods” section.

Criteria	Evidence of excellent performance (5)	Evidence of satisfactory performance (3)	Evidence of unsatisfactory performance (1)	Comments
Appropriateness	The selection of research methods is well-explained and supported by the literature; methods are appropriate for the specific type of research.	The selection of research methods is explained, but more clarity would be helpful; some evidence is provided as of how methods are appropriate for the specific type of research.	Research methods/approach is missing, incomplete, or inappropriate.	Addresses the question: why were the specific research methods selected?
Risks	Clearly states advantages vs. disadvantages, as well as possible risks, of using the research methods selected.	States some advantages vs. disadvantages and possible risks of using the research methods selected, but not well-organized.	Advantages vs. disadvantages and possible risks of the research methods selected are not addressed.	Addresses the question: what are the limitations of using the specific research methods selected?
Alignment	Clearly demonstrates how research methods are in alignment with, and address all research questions or objectives.	Research methods are in alignment with and address all research questions or objectives, but this is not clearly demonstrated by the author.	Research methods do not address all research questions or objectives.	Addresses the question: how are research methods connected to the research question or objectives?
Details	Research methods are described clearly and in detail.	Research methods are described clearly; however, details might be missing.	Research methods are not described clearly, and details are missing.	Addresses the question: what procedures have been implemented?
Overall assessment	Demonstrates an excellent approach in the way the research methods are presented.	Demonstrate a satisfactory approach in the way the research methods are presented.	Demonstrate an unsatisfactory approach in the way the research methods are presented.	Reviewer’s assessment based on all of the above criteria.