

## PSYCHOLOGY - RUBRIC FOR EVALUATION OF THESIS/DISSERTATION PROPOSALS (Document)

Task Description: Describe the research proposed for your dissertation or thesis. Briefly review the background of the field, state the goals, aims or hypotheses of your research, showing how the research is important and addresses unknown questions. Explain your methodology and data analysis plan and demonstrating the feasibility of proposed research.

**A minimum score of "9" is required averaged across all committee members to receive a passing score.**

Dimension	Excellent (4-5 points)	Competent (2-3 pts)	Needs work (0-1 pt)
WRITING 30%  _____	Ideas and description are well organized into paragraphs with good topic sentences. Paragraphs are logically ordered, with good transitions between paragraphs and between topics. Sentences are clearly understandable.	Some paragraphs contain a mix of different topics. Paragraphs are not always related to prior or following paragraphs, or transitions between paragraphs are poor. Sentences are somewhat understandable.	Most paragraphs contain a mix of different topics, and descriptions of single topics are scattered throughout multiple paragraphs. Paragraphs have no logical order. Sentences are unintelligible.
CONTENT - background 30%  _____	Student has identified a significant question in psychology. Goals of research are clearly stated. Displays superior knowledge/understanding of relevant theoretical and empirical literature.	Student has identified a reasonable question in psychology. Goals of research are stated somewhat vaguely. Displays basic knowledge and understanding of relevant theoretical and empirical literature.	Significance of question to be addressed is uncertain. Goals of research are unclear. Unaware or confused about relevant theoretical and empirical literature.
CONTENT - plan 40%  _____	Research plan is well designed to address the question, including appropriate controls. Demonstrated the feasibility of the research, shows mastery of the techniques to be used. Proposed analysis is clearly explained, and demonstrates superior understanding of methods and relevant statistical/data analyses.	Research Plan approaches or partly addresses the question; controls are included, but not sufficient. Some understanding of the techniques to be used. Analysis plan demonstrates moderate understanding of data analysis and relevant statistical/data.	Research Plan is poorly designed - it will not address the question or hypothesis; relevant controls are not included. Project does not seem feasible. Incorrect or missing explanation of how results will be analyzed.

Score (0 to 5 points for each dimension): \_\_\_\_\_ out of 15      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ COMMITTEE MEMBER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_