



Research Evaluation Checklist

Please review the following items and ensure that your defense ready submission complies with them. This check list represents the minimal evaluative grid that will be utilized by your committee in their review. You are encouraged to personally evaluate your document based on these items. Your signature is required at the end of this document.

NOTE: A SIGNED COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT IS REQUIRED WITH EACH DOCUMENT SUBMISSION.

CHAPTER ONE

- Do the title and the research purpose agree?
- Is the research problem clearly stated?
- Is the purpose statement clearly and succinctly stated?
- Does the introduction, statement of problem, and overview of literature set the background for the reader and is the material consistent with research questions? Is it obvious to the reader how the proposed study will significantly and appropriately contribute to the existing literature?
- Given the research problem, are the research questions clearly stated? Are the questions logically and systematically related to the problem?
- Have you convinced a skeptical reader that your study ought to be conducted?

CHAPTER TWO

- In your theological section, have you addressed the most pertinent issue(s)? Have you relied upon the strongest Biblical and theological writers for your topic?
- Have you logically addressed the major variables in your study?
- Can your reader understand the necessity of your proposed study after reading your literature review?
- Have you demonstrated the existing connections between your variables in the literature?
- Have you demonstrated the "gap in literature" and how your proposed study will contribute to the existing literature?
- Is it clear how the literature is shaping your proposed study?
- The following questions relate to your writing style:
 - Is the structure of the literature review intuitive?—is the flow logical and appropriate to the topic?
 - Have you included everything the reader would expect pertaining to your topic and nothing more? Have you included extra "stuff"?—stuff that may seem interesting but is unnecessary.
 - Have you used the most significant works in the field? Have you relied upon primary and secondary sources rather than tertiary and popular sources?
 - Have you narrowed the scope of your discussion of the literature to the most pertinent topics?
 - Have you used good transitions between paragraphs and topics?
 - Does your literature review flow well if you were to remove the headings?
 - Have you used appropriate grammar, syntax, and diction?

- Have you organized your literature review well? Have you moved in a definitive way to a climax of the discussion?
- Have you used introductions to each major topic that explain why you are reviewing that particular set of literature and how it directly applies to your proposed study?
- Have you critically evaluated and interacted with the scholarly literature?
- Does your writing demonstrate a synthetic understanding of the literature?
- Can your literature review stand alone with minor adjustments as a bibliographic essay?

CHAPTER THREE

- Is the purpose statement clearly and succinctly stated?
- Are the research questions clearly stated? Are the questions logically and systematically related to the problem? Will the research questions lead to the desired data?
- Have you correctly selected and clearly stated your theoretical population?
- Have you adequately described the methods used to select your sample from the population?
- Have you clearly stated the intentional limitations used in determining the sample and provided a rationale for doing so?
- Have you calculated and substantiated your needed sample size? Have you considered your expected return rate?
- Have you appropriately generalized your findings to your population? Have you discussed and substantiated the potential transferability of your findings to other populations?
- If using an established instrument:
 - Have you chosen the most appropriate instrument?
 - Is the instrument validated and its reliability evidenced?
 - If using an established instrument with a new population, have you stipulated how you will validate and measure the reliability of the instrument?
- If creating your own instrument:
 - Is there an obvious tie between your instrument and the literature? Has the literature shaped your instrument?
 - Have you stipulated how you will validate and measure the reliability of the newly created instrument?
 - Have you planned for a field testing of the newly created instrument?
- Have you included a clear statement regarding the research ethics committee approval process in your documentation?
- Have you adequately described your research procedures? In other words, could someone replicate your study based on this section?
- Have you described how you will successfully access your sample and increase your expected return rate?

CHAPTER FOUR

- Have you thoroughly described how your data was gathered and compiled for analysis?
- Have you thoroughly explained the statistical measures which were applied to the data?
- Have you adequately described how the statistical measures function and why they were chosen for the analysis of data?

- Have you organized your findings in a clear and logical manner?
- Have you appropriately utilized tables and figures?
- Is your analysis of the data accurate?
- Have you evaluated the research design in a thorough manner?

CHAPTER FIVE

- Have you thoroughly discussed the research implications of your findings?
- Have you connected the research implications to the existing literature?
- Have you thoroughly discussed the research applications related to your findings?
- Have you properly discussed the limitations on how your findings should be applied/interpreted?
- Have you provided thoughtful insight into potential future research?
- Have you discussed potential modifications to the design of the study which could enhance its replication in the future?

REFERENTIALS

- Have you included all the appropriate referentials in the document?
- Have you correctly numbered the pages on the referentials?

STYLISTIC ISSUES

- Have you complied in totality with the Southern Style guide (3rd edition) and Turabian (7th edition)?

By signing below, the student acknowledges that if the document submitted does not satisfy the above checklist, the document may not be accepted for a hearing. The student also acknowledges that **this checklist is only a minimal evaluative checklist** and that the student’s **dissertation committee may and most likely will evaluate the document with greater stringency**. Therefore, the student is not to consider this list the final method of evaluation, it is only to be understood as the minimum questions to be asked.

Printed Name

Signed Name

- Prospectus
- Dissertation

Date