



POSTGRADUATE STUDIES
FACULTY OF :
DEPARTMENT OF :

EVALUATION OF MASTERS DISSERTATION - ASSESSMENT GRID*

STUDENT: _____

MASTERS: _____

SUPERVISOR / EXAMINER: _____

DATE: _____

*This evaluation grid serves as a guideline to assist you in marking a dissertation.

TITLE OF RESEARCH:

CRITERIA	YES	NO	N/A	MARK
The title is concise and descriptive of the research problem/focus area.				
The abstract is a true reflection of the content of the thesis.				
				5
INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE/ PROBLEM STATEMENT	YES	NO	N/A	MARK
The introduction/background introduces the problem clearly.				
The introduction/background narrows down the research focus.				
The introduction/background is supported theoretically.				
The introduction/background refers to relevant previous research.				
The introduction/background rationale motivates the significance of the research.				
Key concepts are clearly defined.				
The problem statement is specific and clear.				
The research problem is logical and coherent in relation to the introduction background.				
				10

RESEARCH QUESTIONS, PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES	YES	NO	N/A	MARK
The research problem is integrated within existing theoretical/knowledge framework.				
The research questions/purpose and objectives are logical and coherent in relation to the research problem.				
The research questions/purpose and objectives are clear, concise and focused.				
The research questions/purpose and objectives contain the variables, target population and the context of the study.				
The hypotheses are measurable (in quantitative research)/the assumptions of the researcher are described (or qualitative research)				
				10
LITERATURE REVIEW	YES	NO	N/A	MARK
Literature review is logical and coherent to the research design/problem.				
Literature review is appropriate for the level of study (magister/doctoral).				
Literature review is critical and unbiased interpretation of available theory.				
Literature review reflects current credible sources.				
The depth/scope of literature review is saturated.				
Literature review is logically organized and integrated within the research.				
				20
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY*Please take in account the applicability and suitability to the relevant subject areas	YES	NO	N/A	MARK
Population and sampling				
The population is described according to size and characteristics.				
The sampling method(s) is clearly described.				
The sampling criteria are clearly described.				
The sample size is described.				
The sample method/size is appropriate for the research design.				
The sample method/size is appropriate for the methods of data collection and analysis.				
Research Design				
The research design is clearly design.				
The research design is appropriate for the research problem.				
The acceptability of the research design is methodologically grounded				

and justified.				
Data Collection				
Method(s) of data collection/measuring instrument is clearly described.				
Method(s) of data collection/measuring instrument is appropriate to the research design/ problem/purpose.				
Method(s) of data collection/measuring instruments are supported by methodological sources.				
A pilot study was conducted.				
Validity and Reliability/Trustworthiness				
Validity and reliability/trustworthiness is clearly described.				
Validity and reliability/trustworthiness is appropriate for the research design.				
Validity and reliability/trustworthiness is described for the methods of data collection/measuring instruments.				
Data Analysis				
Method(s) of data analysis is clearly described.				
Method(s) of data analysis is appropriate for the research design.				
Method(s) of data analysis is appropriate for the methods of data collection.				
Method(s) of data analysis is appropriate for the population and sampling.				
Method(s) of data analysis is conducted according to acceptable procedures in sciences.				
Adherence to all ethical considerations as relevant to the study				
				20
RESULTS/FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	YES	NO	N/A	MARK
The results are clearly described.				
The results are related to the research purpose/objectives/questions.				
Demonstrates a clear ability to interpret results.				
Presentation of the data is relevant and economical.				
Displays scientific imagination with regard to the analysis of the results				
Demonstrates capability with regard to the systematic addressing of the research problem.				
Research has contributed to solving the original problem and addressing the research question/objective/hypothesis.				
Displays mastery of the specific research techniques required at this				

level.				
Conclusions/recommendations are supported by results.				
Line of reasoning is evident.				
Conclusions/recommendations are integrated within existing theoretical/knowledge frameworks.				
Limitations of the research are made.				
Recommendations for future research are made.				
				30
GENERAL TECHNICAL ASPECTS	YES	NO	N/A	MARK
A consistent style of referencing technique/bibliography is used.				
Grammar and spelling are correct.				
The layout and presentation are logical.				
Numbering format is consistent.				
Tables/diagrams/figures are clear and accurate.				
Tables/diagrams/figures supplement and economize the text.				
The research adheres to principles of beneficence.				
The research adheres to principles of informed consent.				
The research adheres to principles of privacy/confidentiality.				
				5

GRAND TOTAL: 100

Please indicate one of the following:

The dissertation is accepted with no corrections	
The dissertation is accepted with minor revision as suggested in the report made to the satisfaction of the Supervisor and Head of Department	
The dissertation is referred to the candidate for extensive re-writes, as suggested in the report and presented for re-examination upon declaration by the candidate and the supervisor	
That the dissertation be rejected and the candidate should fail	

Objection to the award of the degree _____

WRITTEN REPORT

COMMENTS:

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

Name: _____

Capacity: _____