

Outstanding Thesis/Dissertation Evaluation Rubric

Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
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Student's Name:

Degree:

Name of the evaluator:

Evaluation date:

Document: Electronic copy of the accepted version of the thesis must be submitted for evaluation.

SN	Evaluation Items and Criteria	Evaluation Category		
		Excellent	Very good	Good
1	Abstract Does the abstract contain rationale for the study, hypothesis(es) and objective(s), major methods, major findings, and conclusions?	10	9	8
2	Introduction & Literature Review 1. Does the student present enough and relevant background on what is known on the topic, existing information gap, and importance of bridging that gap? 2. Does the student cite enough, relevant literature properly to support the information presented? 3. Does the literature review lead to research question(s), hypothesis(es), and objective(s)? 4. Does this section present different possible methods and the reason for selecting the one that was used in the study?	20	18	16
3	Methods 1. Is there enough detail of what, when, where, and how the research was performed so that other researcher can repeat the method for similar studies? 2. Is the method relevant to each objective, hypothesis, or research question presented in a logical order (in case of multiple objectives, hypotheses, and/or research questions)?	15	13	11

Outstanding Graduate Student Thesis Evaluation Rubric

SN	Evaluation Items and Criteria	Evaluation Category		
		Excellent	Very good	Good
4	Results 1. Are the results presented clearly, concisely, and in logical order for each objective, hypothesis, or research question (in case of multiple objectives, hypotheses, and/or research questions)? 2. Are the Pictures, Figures, Tables, and any other artwork presented of high quality (legible, labeled properly, standing alone) and described and referred in the text properly?	15	13	11
5	Discussion 1. Is the discussion presented in a logical order for each objective, hypothesis, or research question (in case of multiple objectives, hypotheses, and/or research questions)? 2. Does the student answer the research question(s), or accept or fail to accept null hypothesis(es) proposed for the study? 3. Does the student relate the findings to relevant literature with proper citation? 4. Does the student present satisfactory reasons for findings that are in disagreement with previously reported results in other literature? 5. Does the student point out the unanswered question(s) and direct future research?	15	13	11
6	Conclusions and other parts Does the student draw reasonable conclusion(s) based on the research findings, and present implications of the findings? Are the conclusions of any utility to the scientific community, or any other stakeholders? Are the acknowledgements and cited references properly presented?	15	13	11
8	Originality How novel is the work that is being presented in the thesis document? Were any breakthroughs made that will influence the direction of research, education, and/or outreach at a large scale?	5	4	3
9	Overall Quality of Writing Given the entire application, what is the overall assessment of the individual thesis?	5	4	3
	Total	100	87	74

Minimum score to qualify is 74.