Approaches to Assessment in Higher Education

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2022-02-10

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# Proposal Outline

Below is a proposed outline for a completed 3-paper dissertation. Should this format be deemed acceptable, this outline will form the basis of my formal dissertation proposal. Level two headings in this document represent the chapters in the completed dissertation, and level three headings (in italics) represent possible headings for each of the individual papers, subject to modification.

## Introduction

### Overview of Assessment

### History of Assessment Literacy and Instruments

### Approaches to Assessment

### Assessment in Higher Ed

### Impact of Technology on Assessment in Higher Ed

## Paper 1 - Assessment In Higher Education: A Review of the Literature

* **Proposed Journal:** [Assessment and Evaluation in Higher Education](https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/CAEH20/current)
  + 7000 words including tables, references, captions, footnotes, endnotes
  + Gold Open Access - $3605USD

### Defining Assessment

### Assessment and Measurement

### Assessment Literacy

### Approaches to Assessment

### Assessment in Higher Education

### Impact of Technology on Assessment in Higher Education

## Paper 2 - Validating the Approaches to Classroom Assessment Inventory (ACAI) in Higher Education

* **Proposed Journal:** [Assessment, Testing and Applied Measurement (Frontiers in Education)](https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/education/sections/assessment-testing-and-applied-measurement#about)
  + “Free from the restrictions created by print-based page limits, studies in this section need only demonstrate robustness in theory, method, and analysis to be accepted. The significance or importance of a paper will be decided by open-access readership who will hopefully cite and draw on the work in this section.”
  + APC - $950USD

### History and Development of the *ACAI*

### Overview of Research

### Development of *ACAI* for Higher Education

### Methods

### Results

### Discussion

### Conclusions and Recommendations

## Paper 3 (Emergent) - Paper related to Assessment and Technology in Higher Education

* **Proposed Journal:** [OTESSA Journal](https://journal.otessa.org/index.php/oj)
  + 4000-7000 words
  + APC - None
* Emergent themes based on first two papers, which ***may*** include:
  + technology for adaptive testing, automated item generation, large-scale assessments (NCLEX, PISA, FSA, etc)
  + technology for surveillance or academic integrity (Turnitin, Proctorio, etc)
  + technology to enable new forms of learning- and learner-centred assessments (portfolios, collaboration, version control, learner contributors)
  + ethical applications of technology in assessment

### Introduction

### Literature

### Theoretical / Conceptual Framework

### Research Method

### Analysis

### Findings and Limitations

### Discussion

### Impact on Theory and/or Practice

### Recommendations for Future Research

### Conclusion

### Data Availability

### References

## Conclusions and Recommendations

## References

## Appendices

## Dissertation Proposal Overview

Please read this document first.

This document outlines a proposal and rationale for a 3-paper dissertation involving a literature review, a validation study of the ACAI in higher education, and an emergent study of the impact of technology on assessment in higher education based on the preliminary results of the ACAI study. The rationale for this suggestion is that the topic, approaches to assessment in higher education, lends itself well to approaches from different ~~frameworks, namely, a theoretical framework, a measurement or validation framework, and a framework more descriptive of the role and impact of technology on assessment in higher education.~~ [Revise from ‘Framework’] In our discussions as a committee, it has become clear that further work is warranted in addressing both the *Approaches to Classroom Assessment Inventory* in higher education and also the role and influence of technology on assessment in higher education, especially in light of the last two years of emergency remote teaching. Further advantages of the 3-paper dissertation model include the built-in mentorship in the publication workflow including peer-review, revisions, and communicating with editors and journals.

UVic Graduate Studies supports this model of dissertation, and Dr. Irvine has observed colleagues supervising students in this model. You can find my notes based on a recording of a lab meeting where [Dr. Irvine invited Mariel Miller, a Ph.D. student who completed a 3-paper dissertation, to share her experiences with the process](https://cmadland.github.io/Dendron/notes/4HuJK1YbDiF5JO1p0COda/). It may be helpful to note that [Queen’s supports this model](https://www.queensu.ca/politics/sites/webpublish.queensu.ca.polswww/files/files/Graduate/Article-Based%20Dissertation%20Guidelines.pdf), as does [UAlberta](https://www.ualberta.ca/linguistics/media-library/gradforms/paperbaseddissertations.pdf), but I welcome any input the committee may have on this direction.

## Sample 3-Paper Dissertations

Alves Ballón Tedesqui, R. (2019). [Personality, Deliberate Practice, and Expertise Development in Sport](http://ruor.uottawa.ca/handle/10393/38702) [Ph.D., University of Ottawa]. (5 papers)

Knowles, R. (2015). [Ideology and education: A three-article dissertation exploring implications for democracy](https://doi.org/10.32469/10355/46870) [Ph.D., University of Missouri–Columbia].

Miller, M. (2015). [Leveraging CSCL technology to support and research shared task perceptions in socially shared regulation of learning](http://hdl.handle.net/1828/6582) [Ph.D., University of Victoria].

## 3-Paper Dissertation Structure

3-paper dissertations come in a variety of structures, but the most common requirements include:

* Individual dissertation papers must be determined by the committee to be *publishable*.
* The PhD student must be first author on all papers considered for the dissertation, but co-authors are common and can be determined within the committee.
* Each paper must stand independent of the others, yet be connected to each other in addressing the same theme or problem.
* There are typically 5 chapters in the dissertation, but more may be determined to be necessary. Suggested chapter titles include
  + Introduction, Problem, and Research Questions
  + Article 1
  + Article 2
  + Article 3
  + Conclusions and Recommendations

## Proposed Timeline

* [Link to Google Doc](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zAxGqrooMhEpeRiFOlRfjH0UbGu6h1PTKG-gm6VMQs8/edit?usp=sharing)

## Oral Exam Strucutre

The oral exam for a 3-paper dissertation covers all sections of the completed dissertation, with the PhD candidate responsible for all frameworks, methods, analyses, findings, conclusions and recommendations in all three papers as well as the overall conclusions and recommendations of the complete dissertation.

## Back-up Plan

In the case of an unforseen adjustment in plans (job opportunity, or similar), it may be possible to drop paper three and turn papers one and two into a traditional monograph format.