

Criteria	Does Not Meet 0.01 points	Meets 1 point
Introduction Remarks	<p>The study overview is incomplete or unclear.</p> <p>Key elements are inadequately addressed, all points are not supported in the literature, key concepts lack coherence and clarity. Not framed to proper program of study.</p>	<p>A clear overview of the study is provided.</p> <p>There is a flow from general to specific of the topic. Major points are adequately supported by the literature (Applied degree frames in practice – PhD frames in adding to the literature).</p>
Statement of the Problem	<p>The description of the problem is incomplete or unclear. No evidence is provided indicating the problem exists. Evidence to support the problem is dated. Lacks alignment with the material in the Introduction.</p> <p>The significance of the problem is not discussed is unclear or not discussed. (Applied problem is not discussed in evidence of the local problem and larger population / PhD problem is not framed in the literature beyond a specific site documenting the need for and importance of the study).</p>	<p>A clear problem is explained and supported through the material in the Introduction. Strong evidence (most within the past 5 years) is provided and discussed.</p> <p>(Applied problem discussed in evidence of the local problem and larger population / PhD problem framed in the literature beyond a specific site documenting the need for and importance of the study).</p>
Purpose of the Study	<p>The purpose for the study is incomplete or unclear. Key elements are inadequately addressed and does not align to the stated problem, study details are not supported, and/or lack coherence and clarity.</p>	<p>The purpose of the study is described and aligns to the stated problem, a summary of how the study will be/was conducted is provided.</p>
Introduction to Theoretical/Conceptual Framework	<p>The discussion of the theory(ies) or conceptual framework is incomplete, unclear, or missing. Key elements are inadequately addressed, all points are not supported, and/or there is a lack of coherence and clarity.</p> <p>If multiple theories are used, a clear explanation for their interrelationship is lacking or missing.</p>	<p>The theory(ies) or conceptual framework used to frame the study are identified and explained through use of the literature and study topic.</p> <p>If multiple frameworks are used, a description is provided for how they interrelate within the context of the study topic and literature.</p>

Nature of Study	The brief overview of the study is incomplete or unclear. The proposed method and design are not clearly described. Components of the study design, variables/constructs, instruments and analyses are missing. Little to no explanation for the chosen method and design is provided.	A brief overview of the study design, variables/constructs, instruments, and analyses is provided based on current literature describing why the proposed method and design were chosen to address the study's research question(s).
Research Questions/Hypotheses	<p>The research questions are incomplete or lack coherence, clarity, not testable, and/or not aligned to the problem and purpose.</p> <p>The core concepts and/or operational variables are missing.</p> <p>The hypotheses (quantitative studies only) are incomplete or lack coherence and clarity, are not testable or not aligned to problem, purpose, and/or design.</p>	<p>Research question(s) are directly answerable beyond a yes/no response, fairly specific and testable based on the data collected. Research questions are aligned with design and support the problem and purpose.</p> <p>The core concepts (qualitative) and/or operational variables (quantitative) are included.</p> <p>If hypotheses are included (quantitative studies only), they are singular, clear, balanced, specific, and testable based on the data collected and align to the study problem, purpose, and design.</p>
Significance of the Study	The anticipated contribution of the study is incomplete or unclear. The need for the study is not discussed and there is a lack of current literature supporting claims. The significance does not align with the problem.	A summary of the contribution the study will provide to the larger field of study is provided. The need for the study is described and aligned with the problem and is supported with current literature.
Definition of Key Terms	The definitions of key terms are incomplete or unclear. Personal descriptions are used, too many common words are used, methods and theoretical terms are included.	Definitions are provided with appropriate citations for most terms related to the dissertation topic. Terms are in alphabetical order.
Summary	The summary of the study is incomplete or unclear, lacks focus on the need and purpose of the study, method and design, anticipated outcomes, and transitions into the next chapter.	Chapter ends with a basic summary of the need and purpose of the study, method and design, anticipated contributions, and transitions into the next chapter.
APA Format	Inconsistently applies fundamental APA formatting for TOC, List of Tables, List of Figures, throughout the Chapter. The template requirements are not followed.	Consistently applies fundamental APA formatting for TOC, List of Tables, List of Figures, throughout the Chapter. The template requirements are followed.
Writing/Presentation	Does not follow conventions of scholarly writing, grammar, and punctuation.	Follows conventions of scholarly writing, grammar, and punctuation.