***The argument made in the work***

The research question or thesis is clearly stated; the topic/question that organizes the written work is clearly stated.

Yes Yes Competent Not really No

*outstanding* *good work* *acceptable work* *Poor work* *serious deficiencies*

1 2 3 4 5

The student makes a clear and convincing argument or offers a clear and thoughtful analysis.

Yes Yes Competent Not really No

*outstanding* *good work* *acceptable work* *Poor work* *serious deficiencies*

1 2 x 3 4 5

The student is able to clearly state the conclusions of his/her written work.

Yes Yes Competent Not really No

*outstanding* *good work* *acceptable work* *Poor work* *serious deficiencies*

1 2 3 4 5

The student is able to clearly state the implications of his/her work for the field or subfield of sociology.

Yes Yes Competent Not really No

*outstanding* *good work* *acceptable work* *Poor work* *serious deficiencies*

1 2 3 4 5

The work shows originality, insight, and the exercise of “the sociological imagination.”

Yes Yes Competent Not really No

*outstanding* *good work* *acceptable work* *Poor work* *serious deficiencies*

1 2 3 4 5

***Literature review and references***

The author is able to situate the research question/topic within the relevant body of sociological literature.

Yes Yes Competent Not really No

*outstanding* *good work* *acceptable work* *Poor work* *serious deficiencies*

1 2 3 4 5

The written work demonstrates the student’s mastery of the relevant research literature.  
Yes Yes Competent Not really No

*outstanding* *good work* *acceptable work* *Poor work* *serious deficiencies*

1 2 3 4 5

The student makes effective and appropriate use of references in the written work.

Yes Yes Competent Not really No

*outstanding* *good work* *acceptable work* *Poor work* *serious deficiencies*

1 2 3 4 5

The student handles attributions and paraphrases appropriately.

Yes Yes Competent Not really No

*outstanding* *good work* *acceptable work* *Poor work* *serious deficiencies*

1 2 3 4 5

***Writing***

The written work is well organized, with a structure appropriate to the question being addressed.

Yes Yes Competent Not really No

*outstanding* *good work* *acceptable work* *Poor work* *serious deficiencies*

1 2 3 4 5

The work is written at an appropriate level for a second year graduate student. It is grammatically and syntactically sound.

Yes Yes Competent Not really No

*outstanding* *good work* *acceptable work* *Poor work* *serious deficiencies*

1 2 3 4 5

The student uses sociological terms/language/jargon appropriately and skillfully.

Yes Yes Competent Not really No

*outstanding* *good work* *acceptable work* *Poor work* *serious deficiencies*

1 2 3 4 5

***Comments:***