



UNION INSTITUTE & UNIVERSITY

Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) Program

Learner:

Faculty:

<i>A Rubric for the Dissertation Prospectus</i>				
Criteria	Levels of Performance			
	Unacceptable	Developing	Proficient	Exemplary
Title Page	The dissertation prospectus does not include a title page.	The dissertation prospectus includes a title page but does not comport with UIU requirements	The dissertation prospectus includes a title page that generally comports with UIU requirements, but includes omissions / mistakes	The dissertation prospectus includes an error-free title page that comports with all UIU requirements.
Introduction	The dissertation prospectus does not provide an introduction.	The dissertation prospectus includes an introduction that establishes the context for the problem being investigated.	The dissertation prospectus includes an introduction that establishes the context for the problem being investigated, the research question(s), and the subsequent literature review.	The dissertation prospectus includes an introduction that establishes a theoretical and empirical context for the problem being investigated, the research question(s), and the subsequent literature review.
Problem Statement	The dissertation prospectus does not include a problem statement.	The dissertation prospectus includes a problem statement that defines the issue(s) the researcher is confronting.	The dissertation prospectus includes a problem statement that defines the issue(s) the researcher is confronting, and/or the situation that is of interest, and/or the context of the identified problem.	The dissertation prospectus includes a problem statement that clearly and comprehensively defines the issue(s) the researcher is confronting, the situation that is of interest to the researcher, and the context of the identified problem.

Purpose Statement	The dissertation prospectus does not include a purpose statement.	The dissertation prospectus includes a purpose statement that appears to be researchable, but is vague in its intent.	The dissertation prospectus includes a purpose statement that is researchable, original, and contributory to either the research literature or to the practice of educational leadership.	The dissertation prospectus includes a purpose statement that is clear and comprehensive and is researchable, original, and contributory to both the research literature and to the practice of educational leadership.
Research Question	The dissertation prospectus does not include a research question.	The dissertation prospectus includes at least one major question.	The dissertation prospectus includes at least one major question, and a description of the reasons and evidence supporting the question(s).	The dissertation prospectus includes at least one major research question, a clear and comprehensive description of the reasons and evidence supporting the question(s), any necessary statements of rationale, and possible alternative explanations of the question(s).
Significance of the Study / Connection to Social Justice	The dissertation prospectus provides no apparent link to issues of social justice.	One or more of the dissertation prospectus research questions relate indirectly to issues of social justice.	One or more of the dissertation prospectus research questions relate directly to issues of social justice.	The dissertation prospectus is structured to allow the learner to make an original contribution to the larger scholarly community such that the work provides new knowledge and creative approaches to leadership as it relates directly to social justice.
Developing Literature Review	The dissertation prospectus fails to account for the author's developing research agenda.	The dissertation prospectus begins to account for the author's developing research agenda.	Reviewed literature is assessed, evaluated, and summarized in the dissertation prospectus with reference to research problem and the underlying theoretical framework.	Reviewed literature is clearly assessed, critically evaluated, and summarized in the dissertation prospectus with reference to the research problem and the underlying theoretical framework. The literature is also evaluated with regard to gaps in the extant body of research literature.

Summary	The dissertation prospectus does not include a summary.	The dissertation prospectus includes a summary that recapitulates most of the elements of the prospectus.	The dissertation prospectus includes a summary that recapitulates the major elements of the prospectus.	The dissertation prospectus includes a summary that clearly and comprehensively recapitulates the major elements of the prospectus and anticipates issues that will be addressed in the methods to be employed in the study.
Organization of the Dissertation prospectus	Organizational structure is unclear and does not follow the essential outline of the dissertation prospectus.	The basic “chapter structure” for chapters 1 and 2 of the dissertation prospectus is clearly employed.	The organizational structures clearly reflect the chapter structure as well as the section and seriation structures.	The dissertation prospectus organizational structures are consistent with best practice and are constructed with the reader clearly in mind.
Quality of Writing	Writing is unclear to the point where reader can not discern essential elements of the dissertation prospectus.	Writing is mechanically correct in the dissertation prospectus.	Claims are supported by warranted evidence (with appropriate citations & references) in the dissertation prospectus.	Claims are supported by warranted evidence (with appropriate citations & references) in the dissertation prospectus and reasoning is clear and unambiguous so that the writer’s authority is established for the reader.
APA style	The dissertation prospectus evidences a lack of proper format in the body of the prospectus and in the citations.	The dissertation prospectus includes numerous errors in APA format.	The dissertation prospectus is generally consistent with proper APA format and includes a Reference page.	The dissertation prospectus is error free regarding APA formatting and includes a properly formatted Reference page..