

Education Department Independent Research Project (IRP) Defense Rubric (December 2019)

Student Name:

Committee Members:

Directions to Committee Members:

Please fill out this form at the end of the IRP/MA defense. The ratings given for the student should be based upon the consensus of the committee. For each Learning Outcome, please rate the IRP/MA Draft at the time of the Defense and the Final IRP/MA assuming all Required Revisions are done. Please put an X in the appropriate boxes at the bottom of the columns to rate the research project on the scale from ‘Did not meet expectations’ to ‘Exceeded expectations’ for each Learning Outcome. Although you cannot know for sure how well the revisions will be done, please evaluate the likely quality of the final product at the end of the defense. At the end of the form, we have a few questions for the committee to answer to help us understand the needs of students in preparing for their research projects. All information will be kept confidential and only reviewed by the PLO sub-committee of the Department Curriculum Committee. **Please return the form to the Education Program Office, 3103 Education.**

PLO Area: Independent Research

4. Design and implement a study using appropriate research questions, methods, and techniques.

PLO 4 USE OF APPROPRIATE RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Learning outcome	Potential Markers of Quality	Did not meet expectations	Partially met expectations	Met Expectation	Exceeded Expectations
PLO 4 Use of appropriate research questions	<u>Baseline</u> -Answerable research question(s) (i.e. not too broad or too many). -Research question(s) clearly worded -Research question(s) clearly addressed in Results and Discussion sections <u>Optional/advanced</u> -Research question(s) have sub-questions that help to address the larger research question. -Research question(s) address gaps in the literature or are innovative through use of theory/methods -Consequential research questions	Does not clearly define scope of research questions	Defines scope of research questions incompletely	Defines scope of research questions completely	Very effectively defines scope of research questions
IRP Draft at time of defense					
Final IRP assuming all required					

revisions are done				
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PLO 4 UTILIZATION OF RESEARCH METHODS

Learning Outcome	Potential Markers of Quality		Did not meet expectations	Partially met expectations	Met expectations	Exceeded expectations
PLO 64Utilization of research methods	<u>Baseline</u> -Clear rationale given for the research methods used. -Methods are appropriate to the research question(s). -Clearly describes steps/components of analysis <u>Optional/advanced</u> -Multiple methods, as appropriate. -Appropriate amount of data used to answer research question(s). -Rigorous design -Complexity, depth of analysis		Demonstrates little understanding of research methods; methods chosen not well suited to research questions	Shows basic level of competence in utilization of methods; methods loosely fit research questions	Applies methods in appropriate ways; methods fit research questions	Demonstrates very thorough understanding of methods; approach is well designed and shows depth and breadth of research methods
IRP draft at time of defense						
IRP after revisions						

Please answer the following questions briefly:

1) Even if no revisions were required, how could the IRP/Master’s Research Project have been improved?

2) If revisions were required, please describe these revisions.