

FYCS Honors Thesis Scoring on Criteria

Purpose: Our FYCS Honors Students (through the CALS Honors or UF Honors Programs) will graduate either magna or summa cum laude based on having completed an honors thesis. Scores on the following 4 criteria will determine whether or not a student passes or fails their thesis (based on committee average scores and votes).

Place your final score for each student thesis in the appropriate box below.

Reviewers Initials Here: _____ →	(20) Literature Review/Gap	Research Objective (20)	Methodology/ Analyses (20)	Justification (20)	APA Style (20)	Total Points	Pass / Fail (P/F)
Student's Name ↓						List Low to High	

I. Literature review/Organization: • Is the background and overall context of the research, citing references, concise yet covers topic thoroughly? Professional literature is clearly focused on stated social problem. Synthesized review provides a comprehensive picture of the current state of knowledge and clearly defines gaps in the literature. How well does the research accomplished in the proposed project fill that gap? i.e. clearly points to the importance of current research question/hypothesis in relation to the body of literature. Uses logical structure; is cohesive and flows well; uses transitional sentences to develop ideas and identify logical connections; guides reader through chain of reasoning with sophisticated transitional means. **Note:** If there are excess typos, including grammatical and spelling errors (e.g., 1 or more) across *all parts of honors thesis*, you may deduct points from this section.

II. Research objective, Results: • Were objective(s), research question(s), or hypothesis clearly and concisely stated? • Can the project be considered worthwhile only if the student finds the expected results from hypotheses, or has a quality thesis been written regardless?

III. Methodology/Analyses: • Methods were appropriate matching the research question (e.g., unit of analysis, sample population, context). Are references to published protocols available? Does the student appear to understand the methodology and have confidence in what he or she is doing and why selecting such methodology? How well were the data/results analyzed, interpreted and presented. Design provides a thorough, clearly stated, and conceptually sound approach to addressing the research question/hypothesis. Sampling strategy is explained and defended. Measurement plan is clearly stated and reflects knowledge of strategies used in prior research. Displays an understanding of the relationships among variables.

IV. Justification/Discussion: Current findings are clearly placed into context of prior research in terms of areas of agreement and discrepancy. Study limitations are thoroughly explicated and implications of these are conceptually addressed. Possible explanations of discrepancies are explored where relevant. Implications for practice, policy, and

future research are thoroughly discussed. Justify that the project includes the original, creative work of the student as informed and directed by the faculty mentor (i.e., the student is not simply helping a graduate student or faculty mentor with his or her research). To what extent did student work in close proximity and advisement from faculty mentor? Describe the impact of the research on the scientific discipline, such as family life, community of interest or youth development. Is there justification on how the given population may benefit from knowledge gained from thesis results?

V. APA Style: Paper formatted in APA style, material properly credited and cited in text, running head and page numbers inserted, reference page(s) present and complete.

THESIS NOTES use for theses reviewed (copy this table for each student thesis)

Use this form to develop your analysis of each student thesis, provide notes to justify your score.

Evaluation Criteria: _____

Student Name

Faculty Reviewer Name

Criteria & Points	Notes	Points Given
<u>Literature review/gap in the literature</u> (20 points)		
<u>Research objective, results</u> (20 points)		
<u>Methodology, Analyses</u> (20 points)		
<u>Justification/Discussion</u> (20 points)		
<u>APA Style</u> (20 points)		
Total		

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