SENIOR THESIS PROPOSAL GRADING RUBRIC

GRADE = A
Clear, reasoned research questions

Clear, well-written hypothesis/tentative argument

Excellent review of preliminary research, including detailed explanations of the relevant academic literature

Proposed methodology is in accordance with the academic field
Organized, explicit plan for analysis

Each paragraph is clearly related to and supports the stated research questions

Exceptional quality of writing, including sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, transitions, appropriate sentence and paragraph lengths, spelling, non-sextist language; paper is spell-checked and proof-read; student carefully explains academic jargon and concepts

Citations appear appropriately throughout the paper, and they are in the proper format for the academic field

Annotated bibliography includes at least 15 academic sources from experts within the field and is properly formatted

GRADE = B
Clear, reasoned research questions

Clear, well-written hypothesis/tentative argument

Good review of preliminary research, including detailed explanations of the relevant academic literature

Proposed methodology is in accordance with the academic field
Organized, explicit plan for analysis

Each paragraph is clearly related to and supports the stated research questions

Good quality of writing, including sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, transitions, appropriate sentence and paragraph lengths, spelling; paper is spell-checked and proofread; student adequately explains academic jargon and concepts

Citations appear throughout the paper in the proper format
Annotated Bibliography includes at least 10 academic sources from experts within the field and is properly formatted

**GRADE = C**
Poorly stated and/or under-explained research questions

Vague or poorly stated hypothesis

Average review of preliminary research

Proposed methodology is in accordance with academic field, but is disorganized or under-explained

Plan for analysis is included, but is unorganized, undoable, or vague

Each paragraph is clearly related to and supports the stated research questions

Fair quality of writing, including sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, transitions, appropriate sentence and paragraph lengths, spelling; paper is spell-checked and proofread; student adequately explains academic jargon and concepts

Citations appear throughout the paper, but they are improperly placed and/or formatted

Annotated Bibliography includes at least 10 academic sources from experts within the field and is properly formatted

**GRADE = D**
Research questions are confused, unclear, and unorganized

Hypothesis is unclear or nonexistent

Preliminary research review is vague, unclear, and/or limited

Proposed methodology is confused, unclear, or inappropriate to the field

No plan for analysis

Paragraphs are not clearly related to the research questions

Poor quality of writing; numerous, repetitive mistakes; failure to spellcheck or proofread
Citations are consistently improperly placed and/or formatted

Annotated Bibliography is improperly formatted and includes less than 10 sources.

**GRADE = F**

No stated or implied research questions
No hypothesis
No preliminary research review
No proposed methodology
No plan for analysis
Very poor quality of writing
No citations
No Annotated Bibliography
**OR** there is evidence of plagiarism in the proposal.

A+ => 96
A  = 90-96
B+ =87-89
B   =80-86
C+ =77-79
C    =70-76
D+ =67-69
D     =60-66
F     =<60