

2nd Year Paper Score Sheet

Student Name: _____

2nd year paper advisor: _____

Criteria	Fail	Pass with Reservations	Pass	High Pass
Intellectual merit of proposed research question	The research question is <u>not clearly</u> formulated to contribute to existing literature; OR it is <u>not complex</u> enough for graduate level.	The research question has potential to make a contribution to the existing literature but needs <u>more specification</u> .	The research question is <u>well-defined</u> AND has potential to contribute to the existing literature.	The research question is <u>well-defined</u> AND has <u>clear potential</u> to make <u>substantial</u> contribution to the existing literature.
Command and connection to the literature	Does not include most of relevant work; OR incorrectly describes the relevant work; OR does not place their question in the literature they cited.	Primarily cites relevant research without discussing its relevance; OR provides very limited references to relevant literature; OR is not clear about how their question adds to the literature.	Includes a <u>sufficient</u> number of relevant works, AND clearly describes relevant existing research and how their question adds to the literature.	Includes a <u>good</u> selection of relevant works, AND clearly describes relevant existing research and how their question adds to the literature.
Feasibility of proposed research	No relevant examples, OR the theoretical model is not appropriate to address the question (e.g. the mechanism that drives variation in the model is not related to the research question,	Includes <u>limited</u> or <u>unclear</u> examples or description of data sources and/or analyses so that it is <u>hard to be sure</u> about their project's feasibility OR unclear description about the underlying mechanisms in a model or how to calibrate it.	Includes <u>sufficient</u> examples or description of data sources and/or analyses to demonstrate their project's feasibility.	Includes a <u>good number</u> of examples or theoretical results or a dataset with some results to demonstrate their project's feasibility.

	the model is not clearly connected to the question at hand), OR no dataset explicitly described, OR not clear if dataset can be obtained, OR no efforts to examine readily accessible data.			
Clarity of writing	Needs extensive revisions.	Needs improvement in the paragraph organization, grammatical structure, or use of academic language/terms.	For the most part, it is logically presented, using appropriate terms. May have occasional errors, typos, or unclear sentences.	Each part is logically presented, using appropriate terms, and is grammatically well written.
Understanding of research methods and limitations	Does not include a description of how the question is answered.	Includes a vague description of how the question is answered, OR a weak understanding of the method's strengths and weaknesses.	Includes a description of how the question is answered, AND some understanding of the method's strengths and weaknesses.	Includes a fully coherent description of how the question is answered, AND a sophisticated understanding of the method's strengths and weaknesses

The overall grade depends on the first three criteria.

The last two aspects of evaluation (clarity of writing and understanding of research methods and limitations) is for student feedback only.

Overall grade 1. [] High Pass 2. [] Pass 3. [] Pass with Reservations 4. [] Fail