

▼ Topic and Reflection

10.5 points

Criteria Description

Refined Statement of and Reflection on the Potential Dissertation Topic

5. Excellent	10.5 points
A refined statement of the topic is presented. A written reflection is present. Reflective practice is clearly evident.	
4. Good	9.56 points
A refined statement of the topic is presented. A written reflection is present and evinces reasonable reflective practice.	
3. Satisfactory	8.61 points
A refined statement of the topic is presented. A written reflection is present but evinces only limited reflective practice.	
2. Less Than Satisfactory	7.67 points
A statement of the topic is present but may not appear to be refined from previous iterations. A written review of the topic revision process is present, but reflective practice is not evident.	
1. Unsatisfactory	0 points
A refined statement of the topic is either missing or not evident. No reflection on the refinement is present.	

## Criteria Description

### Single-Sentence Problem Statement

#### 5. Excellent

10.5 points

A problem statement is given and is a single declarative statement. The intent of the statement is easily comprehended. The problem statement presented clearly and fully aligns with the problem space identified above.

#### 4. Good

9.56 points

A problem statement is given and is a single declarative statement. The intent of the statement is not easily comprehended. The problem statement presented aligns moderately well with the problem space identified above.

#### 3. Satisfactory

8.61 points

A problem statement is given and is a single declarative statement. However, the statement is a run-on sentence. The problem statement presented only loosely aligns with the problem space identified above.

#### 2. Less Than Satisfactory

7.67 points

A problem statement is given but is not a single declarative statement. The problem statement presented does not align with the problem space identified above.

#### 1. Unsatisfactory

0 points

A problem statement is either missing or not evident.

## Criteria Description

Statement of and Justification for the Potential Methodology

### 5. Excellent

84 points

A statement of and justification for the proposed methodology are thorough. The proposed methodology is directly derived from the research problem. The proposed methodology strongly aligns with the problem statement presented. Considerations to components discussed in the course are clearly evident in the choice. Argument is clear and convincing, presenting a persuasive claim in a distinctive and compelling manner. Scholarly research is used for support and is current or seminal.

### 4. Good

76.44 points

A statement of and justification for the proposed methodology are thorough. There is a connection to the limitations or future study ideas from the cited literature. The proposed methodology aligns with the problem statement presented. Considerations to components discussed in the course are evident in the choice. Argument shows logical progressions. Techniques of argumentation are evident. The research used for support is current.

### 3. Satisfactory

68.88 points

A statement of and justification for the proposed methodology are cursory. There is a vague connection to the limitations or future study ideas from the cited literature. The proposed methodology loosely aligns with the problem statement presented. Considerations to components discussed in the course are vaguely evident in the choice. Argument logically, but not thoroughly, supports the purpose. The research used for support is outdated. Sources used are credible.

### 2. Less Than Satisfactory

61.32 points

A statement of and justification for the proposed methodology are illogical or inaccurate. The proposed methodology does not emerge from a synthesis of the limitations or future study ideas from the cited literature. The proposed methodology does not align with the problem statement presented. Considerations to components discussed in the course are not evident in the choice. Argument lacks consistent unity. There are obvious flaws in the logic.

### 1. Unsatisfactory

0 points

A statement of and justification for the proposed methodology are either missing or not evident to the reader.

## Criteria Description

Justification for not Selecting the Alternative Methodology

### 5. Excellent

84 points

A justification for not selecting the alternate methodology is thorough. A discussion of why the alternate methodology does not align does not align with the problem statement is thoroughly presented. Considerations to components discussed in the course are clearly evident in the choice. Argument is clear and convincing, presenting a persuasive claim in a distinctive and compelling manner. Scholarly research is used for support and is current or seminal.

### 4. Good

76.44 points

A justification for not selecting the alternate methodology is thorough. A discussion of why the alternate methodology does not align does not align with the problem statement is presented. Considerations to components discussed in the course are evident in the choice. Argument shows logical progressions. Techniques of argumentation are evident. The research used for support is current.

### 3. Satisfactory

68.88 points

A justification for not selecting the alternate methodology is cursory. A discussion of why the alternate methodology does not align does not align with the problem statement is vaguely presented. Considerations to components discussed in the course are vaguely evident in the choice. Argument logically, but not thoroughly, supports the purpose. The research used for support is outdated. Sources used are credible.

### 2. Less Than Satisfactory

61.32 points

A justification for not selecting the alternate methodology is illogical or inaccurate. A discussion of why the alternate methodology does not align with the problem statement is not presented. Considerations to components discussed in the course are not evident in the choice. Argument lacks consistent unity. There are obvious flaws in the logic.

### 1. Unsatisfactory

0 points

A justification for not selecting the alternate methodology is either missing or not evident to the reader.

## Criteria Description

### Mechanics of Writing

#### 5. Excellent

10.5 points

Writer is clearly in command of standard, written, academic English.

#### 4. Good

9.56 points

Prose is largely free of mechanical errors, although a few may be present. A variety of sentence structures and effective figures of speech are used.

#### 3. Satisfactory

8.61 points

Some mechanical errors or typos are present, but are not overly distracting to the reader. Correct sentence structure and audience-appropriate language are used.

#### 2. Less Than Satisfactory

7.67 points

Frequent and repetitive mechanical errors distract the reader. Inconsistencies in language choice (register), sentence structure, and/or word choice are present.

#### 1. Unsatisfactory

0 points

Mechanical errors are pervasive enough that they impede communication of meaning. Inappropriate word choice and/or sentence construction are used.

## Criteria Description

### APA Format

#### 5. Excellent

10.5 points

In-text citations and a reference page are complete and correct. The documentation of cited sources is free of error.

#### 4. Good

9.56 points

Required format is used, but minor errors are present. Reference page is present and includes all cited sources. Documentation is appropriate and citation style is usually correct.

#### 3. Satisfactory

8.61 points

Required format is generally correct. Reference page is included and lists sources used in the paper. Sources are appropriately documented though some errors are present.

#### 2. Less Than Satisfactory

7.67 points

Required format elements are missing or incorrect. A lack of control with formatting is apparent. Reference page is present. However, in-text citations are inconsistently used.

#### 1. Unsatisfactory

0 points

Required format is rarely followed correctly. No reference page is included. No in-text citations are used.

**Total** 210 points