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Assessment 2

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A GUIDE FOR ONLINE GRADUATE STUDENTS:

WRITING A GREAT THESIS OR DISSERTATION

WRITING A GREAT THESIS OR DISSERTATION: THE NO-NONSENSE GUIDE

Part I: Crafting a Great Proposal

The art of crafting a great proposal is not as difficult as it may seem. This section includes a wide array of differentiated resources to assist with organizing your proposal. Resources such as mind mapping software and apps are included to help you with getting started on that great proposal.

Chapter 1 Charting into Unknown Territory: Do I Really Want to Write a Dissertation?

If you are feeling a bit apprehensive about writing a doctoral dissertation this chapter is certainly a “must” read for you. By completing a set of pre-determined exercises you will be able to get a better sense of whether or not to take the plunge into uncharted waters.

Chapter 2 An Introduction to Your Desktop Guide

If you are looking for a user-friendly guide to writing a thesis or dissertation this is the book for you. This no-nonsense guide includes all of the fundamental aspects of educational research at your very fingertips. Download or stream the audio book on your Smartphone or tablet to get started.

Chapter 3 Aligning All Your Resources

Aligning financial resources is one of the keys to academic success. Some workplaces offer tuition reimbursement which is worth exploring. Whether you are taking out a loan, applying for a scholarship/grant or using your savings account to finance your tuition, the key is to have a solid plan in place.

Chapter 4 Finding a Topic, Purpose, and Research Question

It’s essential to identify a research topic based on your level of expertise and area of interest. Once a topic is selected it should be narrowed down as much as possible. A statement of purpose and research question should also be developed to help guide you through the process.

Chapter 5 Organizing and Writing Review of Literature

Working smarter and not harder will allow the researcher to systematically review the literature in an organized manner. Narrowing down the existing research in the field is a crucial step in the process. This chapter will highlight the BBC approach which includes **B**ackground Information, **B**ody of the Review and the **C**onclusion.

Chapter 6 Considerations for Choosing a Research Design

To conduct a quantitative study or qualitative study…That is the question. Selecting a research design to meet your needs will lay the pathway for the journey ahead. They key here is to plan your work and work your plan.

Chapter 7 Statistics at Your Fingertips (Descriptive, Correlation, t-Test, z-Test)

The basic elements of descriptive statistics are brought to life as you learn how to summarize the samples and the measures in your study. You will also learn about the importance of correlation and explore the key features of the t-Test, the z-Test and what sets them apart.

Chapter 8 Statistics at Your Fingertips (ANOVA & Multiple Linear Regressions)

Gain access to a variety of statistical tools and resources that you will need to compare multiple populations within your study. This chapter provides the pros and cons of using Excel, SAS, STATA, Minitab and other statistical software programs along with a user’s guide on how to get started.

Chapter 9 Creating Data Collection Instruments

The key to creating data collection instruments is to keep the KISS principle (Keep It Short and Simple) in mind. The data should be collected and recorded in a clear and systematic manner with an emphasis on reliability. Vast arrays of easy to use sample surveys are included in this section.

Chapter 10 Time to Write Chapter III

Chapter III will be the heart and soul of your dissertation with a clear focus on methodology. A step by step matrix will be provided to guide you through the process which will include research methods, documents used in the study, resources, data collection, data analysis and a summary.