

Name: _____

Final Proposal

PSY 3500

Overview

The purpose of this writing assignment is to provide your completed proposal, including the literature review and methods sections. You can earn up to 100 points on this part of the assignment (the presentation is worth another 100 points). The expectations are detailed in the rubric at the end of this document.

Instructions

1. Produce a title page in APA style.
2. On the next page, produce an abstract in APA style. Note that the abstract should incorporate any feedback you have received from the TA or instructor in order to receive credit. The abstract should include:
 - a. A brief explanation of the topic.
 - b. The reason(s) the topic is important to study (i.e., justification).
 - c. The research question.
 - d. A brief description of the general approach to be used in data collection (e.g. survey, experiment, etc.)
 - e. Scientific hypothesis/es.
3. On the next page, begin the literature review. Have a section header called **Introduction** for the literature review. The literature review should include:
 - a. An introduction of the topic that includes an explanation of why the topic is important.
 - b. An integrated overview of earlier studies related to the research question, using at least four peer-reviewed articles.
 - c. The research question, scientific hypotheses, and justification for your hypotheses.
4. With a new section called **Methods**, begin the methods section. The methods should include:
 - a. A description of the sample that will be collected, including the way that participants will be recruited, the survey instruments that they will be given, and other data collection procedures that will be used.
 - b. The research question and scientific hypotheses.
 - c. A description of the design (e.g., factorial design experiment, observational, etc.) that includes enough information for someone to replicate what you did.
 - d. A short paragraph about potential limitations to the study and solutions to these potential problems.

5. On the last page, produce an APA-style reference page.
6. Submit the assignment 1) through the Canvas site or 2) on paper by the beginning of class on the date specified. For the paper version, print this document and staple it to the end of your assignment.

Late assignments will not be accepted.

Each point level represents the minimum level of quality needed to obtain credit within each category.

Literature Review

Description and Justification

- 10 points: *Topic relates to psychology and can be examined empirically. Topic and research question are very clearly articulated. Justification for performing the study is very convincing and very clearly articulated.*
- 8 points: *Topic relates to psychology and can be examined empirically. Topic and research question are clearly presented. Justification for performing the study is somewhat convincing and clearly articulated.*
- 6 points: *Topic relates to psychology and can be examined empirically. Topic and research question are presented, but may lack clarity. Justification for performing the study is either not convincing or lacks clarity.*
- 4 points: *Topic relates to psychology and can be examined empirically. Description of topic and/or research question is not clear. Justification for performing the study is not convincing.*
- 0 points: *No attempt made to describe topic.*

Review of the Literature

- 10 points: *The literature review thoroughly and clearly integrates findings from previous work on the topic.*
- 8 points: *The literature review integrates findings from previous work on the topic.*
- 6 points: *The literature review presents findings from previous work, but not in an integrated fashion.*
- 4 points: *The literature review presents findings from previous work, but significantly lacks clarity.*
- 0 points: *The literature review is unreadable.*

References & Citations

- 10 points: *Four relevant peer-reviewed articles are properly cited.*
- 0 points: *Less than four peer-reviewed articles are cited.*

Scientific Hypotheses

- 10 points: *Hypotheses are very clearly stated and specific with regard to the expected outcomes of the study. Justification for the choice of hypothesis is exceptionally clear.*
- 7 points: *Hypotheses are clearly stated and specific with regard to the expected outcomes of the study. Justification for the choice of hypothesis is clear.*
- 3 points: *Hypotheses are stated, but are not specific with regard to the expected outcomes of the study. Justification lacks clarity.*
- 0 points: *No attempt made to state hypotheses.*

Methods Section

Sample

- 10 points: *The sample's characteristics are clearly explained and the recruitment process appears sound. The survey or other data collection tools are clearly explained.*
- 7 points: *One of the areas are not clearly explained/do not appear sound.*
- 4 points: *Two of the areas are not clearly explained/do not appear sound.*
- 0 points: *No attempt made to describe sample.*

Research Question and Hypotheses

- 10 points: *Hypotheses are very clearly stated and specific with regard to the expected outcomes of the study. Justification for the choice of hypothesis is exceptionally clear.*
- 5 points: *Hypotheses are stated, but are not specific with regard to the expected outcomes of the study.*
- 0 points: *No attempt made to state hypotheses.*

Design

- 10 points: *Design is clearly explained. Enough information is given regarding the design that another researcher could replicate the study.*
- 7 points: *Design is explained. Some information is given regarding the design but another researcher would struggle to replicate the study.*
- 3 points: *Design is explained, but it is not a real design, would not produce results, or otherwise would fail to answer the research questions.*
- 0 points: *No attempt made to explain the design.*

Potential Limitations

- 10 points: *At least one potential limitation to the study is clearly discussed. At least one solution to each limitation is clearly explained.*
- 5 points: *At least one potential limitation to the study is clearly discussed. No solutions given.*
- 0 points: *No attempt made to state limitations.*

Overall Writing

- 20 points: *Writing style is professional and free of grammatical, syntactical, and typographical errors. Writing is exceptionally cohesive and clear. Completely devoid of personal opinions. APA style is flawless.*
- 16 points: *Writing style is professional and free of grammatical, syntactical, and typographical errors. Writing is cohesive and clear. Completely devoid of personal opinions. May contain one APA flaw.*
- 12 points: *Writing style is professional and may contain minimal grammatical, syntactical, or typographical errors. Writing is moderately cohesive and clear. Completely devoid of personal opinions. May contain up to two APA flaws.*

- 8 points: *Writing style lacks professionalism and contains some grammatical, syntactical, or typographical errors. Writing has some problems with clarity and cohesiveness. May contain up to three APA flaws.*
- 4 points: *Writing has significant problems with professionalism and grammatical, syntactical, or typographical errors. Writing has significant problems with clarity and cohesiveness. May contain four or more APA flaws.*
- 0 points: *Is unreadable.*