**[TITLE OF DISSERTATION (identify population and variables)]**

[Candidate Name]

A Dissertation

Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of The University of Findlay’s College of Education in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

[Month Year]

Committee:

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[Firstname Lastname, Ph.D./Ed.D./M.D., etc.]

Committee Member

[Firstname Lastname, Ph.D./Ed.D./M.D., etc.]

Committee Member

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**Abstract**

[Insert abstract text here. Limit to 250 words. State the problem, main hypothesis, describe subjects, specify pertinent subject characteristics, research design, sample size, instrument, outcome measures, procedures, findings with effect size and confidence or significance levels, conclusions, and implications (APA, 2020).]

**Dedication**

[Insert dedication text here.]**Acknowledgments**

[Insert acknowledgment text here.]

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**Chapter I. Introduction**

**Background of the Problem**

[A research problem is “an issue, topic, or question that motivates a study… [it] answers the question of why the results of the investigation would be of interest to the research community and how an investigation is linked to prior knowledge and research” (AERA, 2006, p. 33). Describe the context of your topic including relevant legislation, history, common practices, and recent changes in the field. State the importance of the problem with theoretical or practical implications (APA, 2020).]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**Rationale & Significance of the Study**

[The rationale logically describes why the study is justified. The significance describes the benefits that will occur as a result of the study. The benefits may be for people in certain roles, the profession, certain populations, or society in general. Provide a succinct review of relevant literature (APA, 2020) and make it clear how your study will contribute to this relevant literature (AERA, 2006).]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**Purpose of Study**

[Specifically describe the major objective or intent of the study. State specific hypotheses, aims, and objectives. State how hypotheses and research design relate to one another (APA, 2020).]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**Research Questions**

[Explain why your research questions are appropriate for your type of research and show how they are tied to your purpose.]

1. [Insert numbered text here.]

**Definition of Terms**

[Explicitly describe the key terms in your study. At a minimum all key terms in the research questions should be defined. Definition of terms should be research-based, nationally recognized and common throughout the literature (see professional organizations). When terms have multiple meanings in the field, be sure to include the definition that you will be using for the purposes of your study.]

*Term 1.* [Insert term definition here.].

*Term 2*. [Insert term definition here.].

*[Subsequent terms follow same format].* [Subsequent definitions of terms follow same format].

**Chapter II. Literature Review**

[Insert chapter introductory text here. Review the problem, purpose of the study, and the research questions. Review the body of literature that will be covered and identify the major topics of your review, all of which must relate to your research questions. The topics in your literature review should be clearly aligned to each of your research questions.]

**Topic 1**

[Insert Text here.]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

 **Topic 2**

[Insert text here.]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

 **[All Subsequent Topics and Subtopics Follow Same Format]**

**Summary**

[Summarize what the literature says for each of the topics in the review.]

**Chapter III. Methodology**

[Insert chapter introductory text here. Review the research purpose and a brief description of the organization of the chapter. Chapter III descriptions should be “precise and sufficiently complete to enable another researcher, where appropriate, to understand what was done and, where appropriate, to replicate or reproduce the methods of data collection under the same or altered research circumstances” (AERA, 2006, p. 35). Read and adhere to APA Style Manual 7th Edition (2020) pages 82-86. Read and adhere to the AERA Standards for Reporting on Empirical Research (2006) pages 34-40.]

**Research Questions**

[List your research questions. Note: your research questions and methodology must match what is in your IRB!]

1. [Insert text here.]
2. [Insert text here.]
3. [Insert text here.]
4. [Subsequent items follow same format.]

**Research Design**

[Justify why the research design is appropriate for your study given the purpose and research questions. Read and adhere to APA Style Manual 7th Edition (2020) pages 82-86.]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**Participants**

[Provide a complete description of your participants including all the demographic data collected (age, sex, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, years of experience, grade level, etc.), numbers of participants (e.g., n = 382), and other factors related to your study. If this a sample population, explain how that sample was chosen. Explain why these participants are appropriate for this study. Describe sampling procedures for selecting participants including sampling method and percentage of the sample approached that actually participated. Describe settings and locations of data collection. Describe institutional review board agreements, ethical standards met, and safety monitoring (APA, 2020). Read and adhere to the AERA Standards for Reporting on Empirical Research (2006) Sources of Evidence and Ethical Standards (pages 35-40).]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**Instrumentation & Data Sources**

[Describe your study instrument in detail, justifying its design according to the purpose, research questions, and relevant theory and previous research. Describe how your data sources were selected and how you acquired them including the time, duration, schedule, context, and focus of the data collection (AERA, 2006). Read and adhere to the AERA Standards for Reporting on Empirical Research (2006) Measurement and Classification (page 36).]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**Data Collection Procedures**

[Describe step-by-step how you contacted participants, how your study instrument was distributed and used, and how you collected the data. If appropriate, “describe the protocol for the administration of any instruments, the documents, records, or artifacts gathered and the ways in which they were identified” (AERA, 2006). Include other relevant details such as whether or not participants were compensated for participation in the study.]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**Data Analysis**

[Describe the methods used and how data was analyzed. Include narrative explanation as well as summary table of research questions, variables, and statistical tests for quantitative studies. The procedures used for analysis should include what statistical analyses were conducted. See APA Style Manual 7th Edition (2020) pages 80-81.]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**Assumptions**

[Explicitly describe what the researcher assumes to be true and does not question in the data analysis (e.g., all participants answered the survey truthfully, all teachers seek to improve their practice, etc.).]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**Chapter IV. Results**

[Insert chapter introductory text here. Provide a brief overview of the chapter’s organization and content. For each research question, the procedures used for analysis should include what statistical analyses were conducted, the appropriateness of the statistical tests, descriptive and inferential statistics, considerations that arose in the data collection and analysis, and statistical results (AERA, 2006). Read and adhere to APA Style Manual 7th Edition (2020) pages 86-89.]

**Instrument Validity and Reliability**

[Describe how the instrument was pilot tested and how validity and reliability were established. See APA Style Manual 7th Edition (2020) pages 80-81 for additional validity and reliability requirements.]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**Research Question 1**

[Explicitly describe the findings for this RQ in detail and include narrative summary of results as well as tables.]

**Research Question 2**

[Explicitly describe the findings for this RQ in detail and include narrative summary of results as well as tables.]

**Research Questions 3**

[Explicitly describe the findings for this RQ in detail and include narrative summary of results as well as tables.]

**[Subsequent Research Question Results Follow Same Format]**

**Summary**

[Summarize your findings and explain the conclusions and recommendations based on the findings will be considered in Chapter V.]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**Chapter V. Conclusions And Recommendations**

[Insert chapter introductory text here. Provide a brief overview of the chapter’s organization and content. Read and adhere to APA Style Manual 7th Edition (2020) pages 89-90.]

**Review of the Study**

[Review the purpose of the study, the research questions, the methods, and the findings. Be brief when you discuss the findings as you described them in detail in the last chapter and will draw some conclusions from the data in this chapter.]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**Discussion**

[For each research question provide an in-depth interpretation of the results and then discuss the similarities and differences between reported results and the literature from Chapter II. Identify unexpected results and provide a credible rationale for your findings, connecting it to the literature, limitations, or other factors when possible. Discuss generalizability of the findings taking into account the target population and other contextual issues (APA, 2020). “Where there is intent to generalize beyond the specifics studied, it is incumbent on the author to indicate the individuals, contexts, activities, data collections, and so forth (the domains) to which the generalization is intended to apply and (at least implicitly) those to which it may not apply (AERA, 2006, p. 38).]

***Research Question 1***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

***Research Question 2***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

***Research Questions 3***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

 **[Subsequent research questions follow same format].**

**Conclusion**

[Your conclusion is a strong statement of what we know based on your research. It is founded on an integration of the study findings, analysis, interpretation, and synthesis. It must be supported by the findings for all of your research questions.]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**Recommendations**

[Recommendations are clear, actionable steps that should be taken based on your findings. Explain what your research suggests about what the field or individuals in specific roles need to address or change.]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**Limitations**

[Describe potential weaknesses of the study or the scope of the study. What factors cannot be accounted for or measured? How have you limited your data sources (age, year, gender, etc.)? What are the limits of generalizability?]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**Future Research Opportunities**

[Describe the unanswered questions that your study has generated and call for further studies based on these questions.]

***Third Level Subsections (If Needed)***

**Fourth Level Subsections (If Needed).**

***Fifth Level Subsections (If Needed).***

**References**

[Insert references here following APA format.]

**Appendix A**

[Insert text or item here.]

**Appendix B**

[Insert text or item here.]

**Appendix C**

[Insert text or item here.]