

MS Thesis

This form is intended to provide a common set of criteria for the assessment of the written M.S. Thesis. Each committee member should complete this form after the oral thesis defense.

Please rate each attribute on the following scale: **1 = Introductory**, **2 = Intermediate**, **3 = Advanced**, **4 = Expert**, with Expert defined as the proficiency expected of a Ph.D. recipient and Introductory defined as the proficiency of someone who has not acquired skills beyond that of a bachelor's degree. Please note any additional comments below.

Introduction	
Identifies an original and meaningful research topic	
Hypotheses or approaches are presented that are tightly aligned to the question	
The literature review is accurate and places the research question in proper context	
The literature review demonstrates the ability to discriminate between the most important/informative papers and less important/informative ones	
The introduction is written in a manner that is accessible to both specialists and non-specialists in the field	
Methods	
The methods selected are appropriate to the research question	
Methods are described in sufficient detail that the experiments and/or simulations could be reproduced by others	
Methodological challenges are recognized and workable solutions or alternative approaches are proposed	
Results and analysis	
The data obtained are sufficient in quantity and nature to address the research question	
Data are thoughtfully and carefully analyzed in an objective manner	
Figures and tables present results in an easily interpretable fashion	
Discussion and conclusions	
Conclusions drawn are adequately supported by the data	
Discussion connects the results to issues in the literature and conveys the significance of the findings to the field of study	
Strengths and weaknesses in the work are discussed	
Mechanics	
Any errors in spelling or grammar are sufficiently minor that they do not affect comprehensibility	
Literature citations in the text and bibliography are accurate	
Professionalism	
Thesis work is conducted and presented in a responsible and ethical manner	