Nafziger-White-Salwen: Criteria and Scoring Form: Round 1

Reviewer Name: ___________________________________ Dissertation #______________

Score on a 0 to 5 scale in each of the following areas, where 5 is exemplary work. (You can use the same scores more than once.)

1) INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT OF PURPOSE
   • Does the Introduction clearly situate its statement of purpose?
   • Does the Introduction make a convincing argument about why the study is relevant and significant?

2) THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK AND KEY ELEMENTS OF PREVIOUS RESEARCH
   • Does the research have a strong theoretical foundation?
   • Is the literature review thorough and appropriate?
   • Do the research questions and or hypotheses (if applicable) clearly follow from the previous research reviewed in the study?

3) METHOD
   • Is the method appropriate to the questions being asked?
   • Was the method applied properly?
   • Are the techniques for exploring the research questions or testing hypotheses (if applicable) properly and rigorously applied?
   • Does the author clearly explain the method?
   • If applicable, are the samples/data studied appropriate to the questions being asked?

4) FINDINGS
   • Are the study’s findings clearly explained? Are the findings clearly supported?
   • Is there a clear connection between the findings and the research questions or hypotheses (if applicable)?
   • Do the findings make a new contribution to knowledge in the field of journalism and communication?
   • Are the findings significant?

5) CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION
   • Are the conclusions and discussion clearly explained?
   • Do conclusions and discussion follow logically from the findings?
   • Do conclusions and discussion explain clearly how findings contribute to development of the study’s theory?
   • Are the limitations of the study fully and accurately identified and explained?
   • Are important future lines of research that would extend the study identified?
   • Where applicable, do the conclusions and discussion explain how the findings contribute to the communication industry or practice?

6) STATEMENT OF IMPORTANCE TO THE FIELD
   • Are the findings of the dissertation significant for journalism and communication research?
   • Do the findings tell us something that is new and significant?
   • Is the work located within a theoretical or conceptual framework?
   • Is the argument interesting and compelling?

7) CLARITY
   • Is the dissertation accessible for readers?
   • Are the arguments clearly stated and logically developed?
   • Where applicable, are the generalizations clearly stated and developed?
   • Could someone who is not a specialist in the field follow the argument?
   • Is it well written?

8) POTENTIAL FOR PUBLICATION
   • Is the work good enough to merit publication in a scholarly journal or in book form without substantial changes?

TOTAL SCORE (Place this number on the sheet with the rankings)

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