# Grading - Env. Science/Biology/Chemistry & SusDev Senior Seminar

**Author (of thesis/proposal):  Reviewer: Date:  Grade:**

# Process (10% of grade)

The student was creative, resourceful, strategic, identified steps needed to reach goals, successfully managed the project, evaluated progress and adapted approaches. They implemented the project in a professional manner, met regularly and collaborated well with thesis mentor/advisor and peer, and carried the project through proactively. Drafts were improved following advice from advisors, mentors, and peers. They handled uncertain, complex, real-world problems in the lab, field, etc.

 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

 *deficient good outstanding*

*Comment:*

# Presentations (10% of grade)

The student clearly communicated background, analysis, interpretations and significance through their oral presentation**.**

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*deficient good outstanding*

*Comment:*

# “Workshop” deliverables (10% of grade)

This includes the bibliography (1st semester students), poster and 30-second slide (2nd semester students), and peer review (both).

 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

*deficient good outstanding*

*Comment:*

# Thesis (proposal) (70% of grade)

*Dear reviewer: please evaluate the thesis (proposal) by selecting appropriate ranked number below and provide more detailed comments in the space provided after “Comment.”*

The **title page** has student, mentor, and advisor information, and a titlethatis clear, compact and to the point, it contains all key identifiers of the (proposed) research**.** There is a complete **table of contents.**

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*deficient good outstanding*



*Comment:*

The **abstract** introduces the topic and clearly describes the main (preliminary, if applicable.) findings in a quantitative and space efficient way.

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*deficient good outstanding*



*Comment:*

The **introduction** contains a compact but comprehensive presentation of background and prior work in the topic area starting broad and narrowing to a clear thesis statement. It clearly defines the (proposed) research, and demonstrates student capacity to locate, organize, analyze, integrate, synthesize, and evaluate complex information from multiple and disparate sources. Statements of fact are always properly referenced.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

*deficient good outstanding*



*Comment:*

Analytical and quantitative (proposed) **methods/approaches** are selected adequately and presented comprehensively and demonstrate creativity.

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*deficient good outstanding*

*Comment:*

(Preliminary) **results** are comprehensive and presented in a clear and organized fashion. Data analysis is appropriate and exhaustive, including statistics where relevant.

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*deficient good outstanding*

*Comment:*

The **discussion** thoroughly interprets (preliminary) results in context of the thesis statement and properly cited studies. It fully and creatively explores the topic and demonstrates capacity to organize, analyze, integrate, synthesize, and evaluate complex information from multiple and disparate sources.

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*deficient good outstanding*

*Comment:*

**Work plan** (proposals only) includes a Gantt chart and describes in detail what student plans to do until completion of their senior thesis project including deadlines for completing each stage of the project, any work already completed, and any known challenges.

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*deficient good outstanding*

*Comment:*

The **conclusion** (theses only) states the major finding of the work, your ‘take-home’ message. It refers back to the problem posed in the introduction and describes the broader implications of your work.

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*deficient good outstanding*

*Comment:*

**Recommendations (broader implications for proposals)** suggests further analysis, potential solutions to posed problems, and potential use of findings in a broader context.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

*deficient good outstanding*

*Comment:*

**Writing quality -** The manuscript flows without gaps in the logic. It is well organized and consistent with disciplinary style. Grammar is correct and there are no typos. The style enhances the grasp of ideas and engages the reader. Scientific terminology is adequately defined and used.

Abbreviations and acronyms are used only when absolutely necessary.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

*deficient good outstanding*

*Comment:*

**Figures, graphs and tables** are numbered, are easy to read and considerably enhance the understanding of the material. They adequately represent key points, have appropriate captions and are interleaved with the text. Figures are sharp, each axis/symbol is labeled, units are included and different symbols are legible.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

*deficient good outstanding*

*Comment:*

**Literature** is exhaustive and synthesized to enhance reader’s understanding of the topic and to show the relationship of the study to the discipline. References include relevant and up-to-date sources (at least 15 for proposal, 30 for thesis). They follow the disciplinary format and are referred to in the text.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

*deficient good outstanding*

*Comment:*

**Summary statement:**