

SCORING RUBRIC FOR MASTER OF ARTS (THEOLOGY) CONCLUDING PRACTICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

Note: The total grade is constituted 50% by the research paper and 50% by the practical project.

Performance Elements	Excellent 4	Good 3	Problematic 2 1	Unacceptable 0	Raw Score	Adjusted Score	Comments
Theological Content (50% of paper)	Balanced and persuasive presentation of relevant information that clearly supports the topic and shows a thoughtful, in-depth analysis. The writer acknowledges alternative points of view. Well chosen quoted material that is framed and presented in the student's own words.	Information provides adequate and persuasive support for the topic and displays evidence of a reasonable analysis. Tendency to overly rely on quoted material to support argument.	Information supports a central purpose or argument at times. Analysis is basic or general and not particularly persuasive. Student pieces paper together from borrowed texts.	Intentional plagiarism or no clearly defined purpose or argument is evident. Analysis is vague or unclear. Reader is confused or may be misinformed. Quoted material is not marked or cited.		0.00	
Purpose and Method (20% of paper)	The paper's central purpose or argument is readily apparent to the reader. There is a clear and appropriate strategy for achieving the purpose.	The paper has a clear purpose, but the writer sometimes digresses from it. The strategy for achieving the purpose is generally clear and appropriate.	The central purpose or argument is not consistently clear throughout the paper. The strategy for achieving the purpose is neither always clear nor appropriate.	The paper's overall purpose or argument is generally unclear. There is no clear and appropriate methodology for the paper.		0.00	
Organization (10% of paper)	The paper is arranged logically. Ideas flow smoothly from one to another and are clearly linked to each other. The line of reasoning is easily followed.	The paper is arranged logically. Ideas are usually clearly linked to each other. For the most part, the line of reasoning is easily followed.	In general, the writing is arranged logically, although occasionally ideas are not clearly linked to each other. There is uncertainty as to what the writer intends.	The writing is not logically organized. Frequently, ideas are not clearly linked together. There is no clear line of reasoning.		0.00	
References (10% of paper)	Use of references from professionally legitimate sources indicates substantial research. Attribution is clear and fairly represented.	Use of references indicates adequate research. Attribution is, for the most part, clear and fairly represented.	Some references. Many statements or conclusions seem unsubstantiated. There is some confusion about the source of information and ideas.	References are seldom cited to support statements, conclusions or claims.		0.00	
Grammar, Spelling, and Writing Mechanics (10% of paper)	The writing is largely free of errors. The guidelines of a recognized writing style (MLA, APA, Chicago) are faithfully followed.	There are occasional errors, but they don't represent a major distraction or obscure the meaning. With few minor exceptions, the guidelines of a recognized writing style (MLA, APA, Chicago) are followed.	The reader is distracted by errors. The guidelines of a recognized writing style (MLA, APA, Chicago) are generally followed.	There are so many errors the meaning is obscured. The guidelines of a recognized writing style (MLA, APA, Chicago) are not followed.		0.00	
Pastoral Research Project (50% of total grade)	The project is well planned and executed. It has practical pastoral value and demonstrates appropriation of degree coursework.	The project's organization or execution has some minor flaws, but the vision is sound and it still offers a useful contribution and draws on prior coursework.	The vision of the project has merit, but it is poorly organized and has several significant flaws in its execution. There is some evidence of appropriation of course material.	The project is poorly designed and executed. It offers little insight or contribution and demonstrates inadequate grasp of prior course material.			
Student Name:		Faculty Name:		PAPER SCORE		0.00	
MA (Theology) Degree Outcomes Assessment:				PAPER + PROJECT COMBINED		0.00	
Please check the box that indicates how well this project demonstrates competence in each of the following degree outcomes. N/A indicates that the project does not pertain to a particular outcome.				FINAL GRADE		?	
#1 Understand the central elements of Catholic teaching and practice.				<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Problematic <input type="checkbox"/> Very Poor <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
#2 Understand the broad development and diversity of the Church's tradition.				<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Problematic <input type="checkbox"/> Very Poor <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
#3 Read and interpret texts of the Catholic tradition faithfully and critically.				<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Problematic <input type="checkbox"/> Very Poor <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
#4 Relate issues of contemporary thought and life to a larger Catholic theological context.				<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Problematic <input type="checkbox"/> Very Poor <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			

Scale: 4.0-3.69=A; 3.35-3.68=A-; 3.01-3.34=B+; 2.69-3.0=B; 2.35-2.68=B-; 2.34 and under=Fail.