

Master of Science (Surgical Research)
Criteria for Independent Study proposal evaluation

In order to pass the proposal defense, all criteria must be in “good” condition

A. Title	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A
A1. The title summarizes main idea simply within 20 words.				
A2. The title is fully explanatory when standing alone.				
A3. Every word in the title serves a useful purpose.				
A4. There is no abbreviation in the title.				
B. Table of content				
B1. All key sections have been listed in table of content (Introduction, literature review, method)				
B2. All pages are listed correctly.				
B3. List of tables includes all the tables shown in the independent study proposal, with correct page numbers.				
B4. List of figures includes all the figures shown in the independent study proposal, with correct page numbers.				
B5. List of abbreviations shows all abbreviations used in the independent study proposal with correct spelling.				
C. Introduction				
C1. The introduction contains all critical parts: background, conceptual framework, research questions, purposes of the study, research hypothesis, scope of the study, significance of the study, definitions of key terms, ethical considerations				
C2. The research question is good: feasible, clear, significance, ethical				
C3. The problem under investigation is relevant to surgery.				
C4. The conceptual framework being used is appropriate and up-to-date.				
D. Literature review				
D1. The literature review provides appropriate history of the problem being investigated in a concise manner.				
D2. The literature review contains all pertinent literature related to research problem. The review shows correct understanding of the concepts being investigated.				
D3. The literature review does not contain unimportant literature (i.e., the works that only tangentially related to the research problem).				

D. Literature review	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A
D4. Controversial issues have been addressed fairly. The literature review is written in an unbiased, professional manner.				
D5. All terms used in the literature review are consistent (i.e., does not use different words to show the same idea in different parts of literature review).				
D6. All key variables under investigation have been critically reviewed.				
D7. All key instruments being discussed in the independent study proposal have been critically reviewed.				
E. Methods				
E1. The scope of the investigation is appropriately selected and is described clearly.				
E2. The criteria for selection of research studies for critical review have been described clearly.				
E3. The plan for extracting information from the literature is appropriate.				
E4. The procedure for critical appraisal of the quality of the reviewed study is properly planned.				
F. References				
F1. All the references being cited within the text appear in the reference list.				
F2. All the references in the reference list have been cited in the text of the independent study proposal.				
F3. The reference citation style is conformed with Vancouver style.				
G. Appendices				
G1. All key materials of the study appear in the appendices: Table for critical appraisal of literature				
G2. Full credits of copyright holder have been made clear.				