

Doctor of Education Program

Entrance Paper Guidelines

GRADUATE BIBLICAL STUDIES/THEOLOGICAL PAPER

The formal research paper should be 5-7 pages, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font and should adhere to Turabian style guide. Either biblical theological or educational foundations will be considered.

The Entrance Paper can be a paper written by the applicant during their graduate studies. Alternatively, the paper can also be written for this specific application requirement if a graduate paper cannot be located.

Option 1: Using the historical-critical/grammatical method, prospective candidates will exegete a selected passage with a minimum of 5-7 critical sources. One section of the research paper should focus on theological issues covered in the selected passage. The final section should provide an outline for constructing a sermon, teaching lesson, or journal article.

Option 2: Using the historical-critical/grammatical method, prospective candidates will present a thesis based on a selected educational foundations (i.e. theory or philosophy.) A minimum of 5-7 critical sources must be used. One section of the research paper should focus on the theological implications based on the thesis. The final section should provide an outline for constructing a sermon, teaching lesson, or journal article.

Doctor of Education Program Entrance Paper Evaluation

Title of Paper _____

Course: _____ Date _____

Submitted by _____ Reviewed by _____

CATEGORY	Unacceptable (Below Standards)	Acceptable (Meets Standards)	Good (Occasionally Exceeds Standards)	Excellent (Exceeds Standards)
Introduction Thesis & Key Questions	Does not adequately convey central thesis or idea.	Adequately conveys a central thesis or idea, but not key question(s).	Conveys central thesis, idea and key question(s). Delineates subtopics to be reviewed	Strong introduction central thesis, key question(s), and terms. Clearly delineates subtopics to be reviewed.
Focus & Sequencing	Little evidence material is logically organized into thesis, subtopics or related questions. Many transitions are unclear or nonexistent.	Most material clearly related to thesis, idea or questions. Material may not be organized within subtopics. Attempts to transitions.	All material clearly related to the thesis, key questions and logically organized within subtopics. Clear, varied transitions linking subtopics, and main thesis.	All material clearly related to thesis, key questions. Strong organization and integration of material within subtopics. Strong transitions linking subtopics, and main topic.
Literature Sources	Few supporting sources. Sources are insignificant or unsubstantiated.	Sources generally acceptable but not relevant or academic.	Well selected sources Relevant to topic and academically acceptable.	Strong peer reviewed research based support for the content.
Conclusion	Does not summarize content or impact of researched material on topic.	Review of key conclusions. Some integration and discussion of researched material on topic.	Strong review of key conclusions. Strong integration of research and primary content.	Strong review of key conclusions and integration of researched material with primary content and topic.
Grammar & Mechanics	Grammatical errors or spelling & punctuation Substantially detract from the paper.	Few grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors interfere with reading the paper.	Grammatical, spelling, and punctuation errors are rare and do not detract from the paper.	The paper is free of grammatical, spelling, and punctuation errors.
Format and Writing Style	Errors in style detract substantially from the paper. Word choice is informal in tone. Writing is choppy, with many awkward or unclear passages.	Errors in style are noticeable. Word choice occasionally informal in tone. Writing has a few awkward or unclear passages.	Rare errors in style that do not detract from the paper. Scholarly style. Writing has minimal awkward or unclear passages.	No errors in style. Scholarly style. Writing is flowing and easy to follow.
Citations & References	Reference and citation errors detract significantly from paper.	Many references or citations missing or incorrectly written.	Few references or citations missing or incorrectly written.	All references and citations are correctly written and present.
Total Points:				

Notes & Comments: