

Rubric for PLNU Graduate Biology program thesis presentation for assessment of PLO #2 (rev. 04/12)

Candidates who successfully complete PLNU's Master of Arts or Master of Science in Biology program will be able to:

PLO #2: Carry out and communicate various experimental methods and types of data analysis. (Rows 3,4,5 in rubric)

Name: _____ Start/end _____ / _____

Component	Initial (70%)	Emerging (80%)	Developed (90%)	Highly Developed (100%)
Problem, question and/or hypothesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fails to identify or summarize problem accurately • No indication of purpose of the research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarizes the problem, though some aspects are incorrect or confusing • Some indication of purpose of the research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly identifies the problem • Clearly articulates the purpose of the research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly identifies the problem as well as nuanced aspects or key details • Clearly articulates the purpose of the research, beyond the narrow field
Literature Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No literature referred to or listed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 references referred to or listed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4+ references referred to or listed, but too much time spent on refs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4+ ref. appropriately integrated into presentation
Methods (data collection/anal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No explanation or justification of research design • Methodology is unclear and incomplete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some explanation of research design, but no justification • Methodology is basic, but incomplete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly explains research design, but no justification • Explains methodology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly justifies and explains research design • Clearly explains methodology
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graphs and tables are poorly/inaccurately done • One or more pieces of data inaccurately interpreted in text with many opinion statements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graphs and tables are inaccurate/missing labels with some errors • Usually accurately summarizes tables and graphs in text with obvious opinions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graphs and tables are adequate • Accurately summarizes the tables and graphs in text with some opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graphs and tables are professional • Accurately summarizes the tables and graphs in text w/o opinion
Conclusion(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fails to identify conclusions, or conclusion is a simplistic summary • Conclusion presented as "proof" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies conclusions and refers to some specific pieces of evidence • Does not relate conclusion to the broader field 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly links evidence with the conclusion • Minimal consideration of limitations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly links evidence with the conclusion • Considers limitations of the study
Effective use of oral comm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor eye contact • Too quiet, too fast, many "um", etc. • Voice is monotone or is reading slides 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal eye contact • Some "um", etc. • Appropriate tone, but reading slides 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some eye contact with audience • Good voice volume/speed • Appropriate tone and engaging audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good eye contact with audience • Excellent voice volume/speed • Professional tone and engaging manner
Effective use of Powerpoint slides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor organization of slides; presentation is disorganized and confusing • Small font/too many words and errors • Too many or too few slides, distracting animations, graphics, or videos 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good organization of slides; presentation maybe be confusing in some spots • Appropriate size and text w/ some errors • Minimal use of diagrams, graphs, and/or photos 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent organization of slides; presentation is clear • Good size and text w/ occasional errors • Good use of diagrams, graphs, and/or photos 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent organization of slides; presentation is clear • Great font size/text amount w/o errors • Excellent use of diagrams, graphs, and/or photos
Demonstrates professionalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation MUCH too long/short • Little evidence of awareness of audience level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation too long or too short • Unclear awareness of audience level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properly timed presentation • Clear awareness of audience level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perfectly timed presentation • Excellent awareness of audience level