

CAPSTONE PROJECT OUTLINE & RUBRIC

2023/2024

	Does Not Meet Expectations	Meets Expectations
Title		
1. Accurately described the study.		
2. Included author's name and affiliation.		
Abstract		
3. Concisely stated objectives and scope of investigation.		
4. Briefly identified the study methods.		
5. Summarized critical results.		
6. Identified principle conclusions and relevance.		
Introduction		
7. Introduced the social need/condition on which capstone is focusing.		
8. Described the scope of social need.		
9. Described the causes of social need.		
10. Described the consequences of social need.		
11. Outlined current policies (organizational and/or public) attempting to address this need.		
Theory Used to Inform Social Need/Study		
Identify a theory or theories that inform the social need and/or the study. This theory should NOT be one of the theories that make up MSLC.		
12. Discussed the theory(ies) drawn upon to explain/understand this social condition/need.		
13. Discussed how well the theory reflects a strengths perspective.		
14. Discussed how well the theory reflects social work values and ethics.		
MSLC		
15. Incorporated MSLC into the framework of understanding and addressing this social condition.		
16. Described how MSLC broadens our understanding of the social need.		
17. Described how MSLC helps make social work practice (micro/mezzo/macro) more relevant & effective for working with client systems.		
Literature Review (10 articles minimum, within the last 10 years.)		
18. Briefly described the outline of review and stated explicitly what will and will not be covered (scope of the review).		
19. Synthesized the literature to report main findings/results related to given topic area.		
20. Compared and contrasted literature, focusing on the similarities and differences of studies reviewed.		

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21. Used transitions and subheadings to trace discussion of the literature.		
22. Critically assessed the literature (strengths and weaknesses).		
23. Discussed how their study will address research questions left unanswered and provide new information.		
24. Included citations – APA.		
Purpose of study		
25. Stated the purpose of the study.		
26. Stated research question and hypothesis.		
27. Provided a rationale/justification for the study.		
Methodology		
28. Described the setting and locations in which the original data were collected.		
29. Discussed IRB approval, informed consent, confidentiality, anonymity, etc. of the original study		
30. Stated total number of participants. (original study and also your study if different)		
31. Described the major demographic characteristics of the participants.		
32. Described how research participants were selected including the sampling design.		
Measures		
33. Identified study variables.		
34. Described how variables were operationalized.		
35. Identified the reliability and validity of study measures and cited original author.		
Data Analysis		
In Research II, you were asked to write directional hypotheses and use a p value of $<.05$. This means that you will run one tail tests with a $p<.05$. This section of the capstone will be short. You will be explaining what data analysis you plan to do. You will report the findings in the findings section.		
36. Described data analysis plan including statistical tests used and why.		
Findings		
This section should include reporting of the results of inferential tests for the main variables in your study. (Main variables are the IVs and DVs you selected to address your hypotheses.) Additionally, you should report univariate statistics for the main variables. The univariate statistics should give context or additional meaning to the inferential results. For instance, the mean, range and standard deviation of interval/ratio level variables and the frequencies (in percentages) of nominal and ordinal variables. These means that when applicable, you should report the univariate statistics as a part of the findings. One example of this is interpreting the cross tabs that go with Chi Square.		
37. Reported univariate findings AND findings of inferential tests of main variables		
Intervention** (when possible, intervention can be guided by theory above)		
This intervention should be an established intervention with an evidence base or has been deemed best practice. Sometimes, the intervention springs from the theory that you introduced in the theory section. Sometimes it does not.		
38. Described major assumptions of the intervention applied to client population/social justice need/condition.		
39. Outlined key concepts of the intervention.		
40. Described techniques that could be employed with this intervention (minimum of 3).		

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41. Discussed how intervention would be implemented.		
42. Described how the theory shaped/influenced the intervention a. Level of intervention (micro, mezzo, macro) b. Assumptions about power, privilege, oppression c. Promotes pathology, strengths, resilience		
Discussion		
43. Discussed the meaning of the findings. Did the findings support the study hypothesis? Are there alternative explanations/understanding of the results?		
44. Connected findings to the research literature. Did the study results support and/or refute previous studies and/or theory used?		
Strengths and Limitations		
45. Described the strengths and weaknesses of the research study.		
Implications/Conclusions		
46. Described implications for theory building and connection to MSLC.		
47. Described implications direct practice.		
48. Described implications for policy practice.		
49. Described implications for future research.		
50. Discuss how/why this study and its finding are important.		
References		
51. Included an APA reference page including all sources used.		
Professionalism and Presentation Style		
52. Demonstrated effective and professional communication style.		
53. Attire reflected professionalism.		
PASS/FAIL		

Committee Comments

Strengths: _____

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Areas for Improvement:

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