# Thesis Proposal Checklist

**Scientific Knowledge and Methods (Foundational Competency), Research/Evaluation (Functional Competency), Professionalism (Foundational Competency), and Ethical Legal Standards and Policy (Foundational Competency)**

**Clinical Psychology Program**  
**Texas Tech University**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student’s Name</th>
<th>Year in Program</th>
<th>Semester/Year</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Title:</td>
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*A NO on any of these items will result in not meeting expected level of competency for the Thesis Proposal*

## Project Scope

- Student has identified an area of study that has relevance to clinical psychology and in which an original contribution can be made*

  - Yes
  - No

  Scope of student’s research study is appropriate for a thesis-level project*

  - Yes
  - No

## Literature Review

- Student provides a concise, well organized, and integrated review of relevant literature in the Introduction section*

  - Yes
  - No

- Student adequately evaluates existing literature

  - Yes
  - No

- Student addresses strengths and limitations of existing literature

  - Yes
  - No

- Student makes a clear argument for need to conduct research on proposed topic*

  - Yes
  - No

## Purpose of Study

- The purpose of the study is clearly stated*

  - Yes
  - No

- Research questions are appropriate and clearly articulated

  - Yes
  - No

- Hypotheses are appropriate and clearly articulated

  - Yes
  - No

- Supporting literature is provided for hypotheses

  - Yes
  - No

- Student is able to clearly identify different types of variables (independent, dependent, mediators, moderators)

  - Yes
  - No

## Research Design/Methods

- Research design is appropriate to address hypotheses*

  - Yes
  - No

- Student demonstrates evidence that, when possible or relevant, s/he conducted a power analysis to estimate sample size

  - Yes
  - No

- Number of participants is appropriate for study

  - Yes
  - No

- Measures included in study are appropriate for study (i.e., valid measures of target constructs)

  - Yes
  - No

- Description of measures used in study is provided (e.g., dimensional/factorial structure; relevant forms of reliability, validity studies)

  - Yes
  - No

- Student recognizes limitations of proposed thesis research project

  - Yes
  - No
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Collection</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data collection procedures are in accordance with TTU’s IRB guidelines*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data collection procedures are in accordance with APA’s Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct *</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Analysis</th>
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<tr>
<td>Student identifies, provides rationale, and adequately describes statistical procedures chosen to analyze data*</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal Document</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student adheres to guidelines set forth by the APA Publication Manual (6th edition)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Document is well organized, written in a clear, concise, and grammatically correct manner*</td>
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<tr>
<th>Professionalism</th>
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<tr>
<td>Student demonstrates mastery of relevant literature, research study, and is able to adequately answer questions in a thoughtful and scholarly manner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student conducted him/herself in a professional manner*</td>
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A minimum of 20 out of 24 (83%) categories need to be marked ‘Yes’ to have the thesis proposal approved. Items designated with a * must be marked YES in order to meet expected level of competency.

| Yes, student meets or exceeds expected level of competency for the thesis proposal. |     |    |
| No, student does not meet expected level of competency for the proposal. |     |    |

Comments:

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Chair, Thesis Committee</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thesis Committee Member</th>
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<tr>
<th>Director of Clinical Training</th>
<th>Date</th>
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Last Update: 5-29-14