**ANNEXURE J: ASSESSMENT SHEET – DOCTORAL THESIS**

 

**University of Zululand**

**ASSESSMENT SHEET: DOCTORAL THESIS**

*The following information must be completed by the Course Coordinator:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of Candidate:** | **Date of first registration:** |
| **Degree and nature of qualification:** | **Student number:** |
| **Title:** | **Nationality:** |
| **Supervisor:** | **Submission date to exam’s office:** |
| **Co-supervisor:** | **Submission date to examiner:** |
| **Name: Examiner and Institution:** | **Contact e-mail of examiner**: |

**Examiners are requested to use the following key when assessing the various aspects of the study:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
| Poor(less than 40%) | Below average (40% to 49%) | Average(50% to 64%) | Good(65% to 74%) | Excellent(above 75%) |

**Examiners are further requested to attach a report to this assessment form to supplement the comments made herein.**

**Section A: Title and research focus / topic**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Does the title cover the topic meaningfully?
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| 1. Does the title align with the central research problem research questions / hypothesis?
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| 1. Does the title assist meaningfully in the demarcation of the topic?
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**Comments on Section A:**

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**Section B: Conceptual and theoretical focus and quality of the literature study:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Does the thesis reveal originality of approach or involve original research?
2. Does the candidate in the thesis demonstrate without doubt expertise and specialist knowledge in the discipline or field or body of knowledge?
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| 1. Does the candidate further indicate that the thesis has been done at the forefront of the discipline, field or professional practice contributing to new knowledge in the field / discipline?
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| 1. Does the candidate illustrate an ability to contribute through the thesis to scholarly debates at the cutting edge of an area of specialization nationally and internationally?
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| 1. Does the thesis show clear evidence of an ability to apply knowledge, theory and research methods creatively to complex practical, theoretical and epistemological problems?
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| 1. Does the thesis reveal substantial, independent study and advanced scholarship resulting in the (re) interpretation and expansion of knowledge which is judged publishable by peers?
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**Comments on Section B:**

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**Section C: Methodological challenges and research process**

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| 1. Does the candidate illustrate and apply a critical understanding of the most advanced research methodologies, techniques and technologies in the research field?
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| 1. Does the thesis illustrate an ability to identify, conceptualise, design and implement research that addresses complex problems at the cutting edge of a discipline / field?
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| 1. Does the thesis indicate that the candidate has mastered the methodological challenges sufficiently?
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| 1. If appropriate, does the candidate show an ability to identify, analyse and deal with complex and/or real world problems and issues using evidence based solutions and theory-driven arguments?
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| 1. Does the candidate, where relevant, demonstrate the ability to select, apply and manage appropriate statistical software, instruments and techniques in the analyses of data or research samples?
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| 1. Does the thesis reveal efficient and effective information retrieval and processing skills?
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**Comments on Section C:**

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**Section D: Conclusion, synthesis and the presentation of findings**

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| 1. Does the thesis reveal the identification, critical analysis, synthesis and independent evaluation of quantitative and/or qualitative data?
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| 1. Does the thesis show that the candidate has shown an ability to engage critically with current research and scholarly or professional literature in the discipline or field of research?
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| 1. Does the thesis demonstrate an ability to present and communicate academic/professional work effectively appropriate to the context and level of the study?
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| 1. Does the candidate show an ability in the research of advanced information retrieval and processing skills an ability to independently undertake a study and evaluation of the literature and current research?
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| 1. Does the thesis demonstrate the ability to effectively present and communicate the results of research and opinion to specialist audiences nationally and internationally using the full resources of an academic/professional discourse and come to a cohesive conclusion?
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**Comments on Section D:**

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**Section E: Technical and ethical requirements**

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| 1. Does the thesis comply with the technical, language and scholarly writing requirements / standards, e.g. referencing techniques as would normally be associated with this level of research and professionalism?
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| 1. Does the thesis demonstrate ethical sensitivity as well as evidence of how the research has been conducted in this context?
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| 1. Do the chapters form a meaningful and integrated unit?
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**Comments on Section E:**

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**Section F: Concluding remarks:**

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**Section G: Recommendations**

*Please select one of the following options:*

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| 1 | That the thesis be accepted unconditionally |  |
| 2 | That the thesis be provisionally accepted on condition that the candidate makes corrections of a limited extent to the satisfaction of the supervisor |  |
| 3 | That the thesis be provisionally accepted pending more substantial corrections, to be made to the satisfaction of the examiner, or a specified person or body other than the supervisor, after which a percentage mark will be allocated. **Specify person/body:** |  |
| 4 | That the thesis be not accepted in its current form and that it must be referred back to the candidate for comprehensive revision and / or expansion, as per my attached report, after which it should be resubmitted for examination |  |
| 5 | That the thesis be not accepted and the degree be not awarded |  |

**Section G: Consent and declaration**

Do you agree to your name being divulged to a successful candidate?

**Yes No**

Do you agree to a successful candidate being shown your examiner’s report?

**Yes No**

|  |
| --- |
| **I confirm the content of the above assessment and that, in conducting the assessment, I was not at any stage placed in a conflict of interest situation.** |
|  |  |
| **Signature** | **Date** |