

## **BCH Suggested Guidelines and Format for Manuscript Thesis Option**

- All students will write a traditional proposal for proposal defense meeting
  - ch.1 = Introduction
  - ch.2 = Literature review
  - ch.3 = Method(s)
- If student wishes to pursue manuscript option, he/she should bring ideas for the manuscript to the proposal defense meeting
  - Committee as whole will determine if the manuscript option is feasible
  - A decision should be made by the end of the proposal defense meeting which option (traditional or manuscript) the student will pursue
  - As with traditional manuscript guidelines, there is no formal penalty for changing topics, research aims, or methodology; there is no formal penalty for switching to the format option not chosen at the defense meeting. The informal penalty is usually more time required for the student to complete the dissertation, which oftentimes delays the anticipated graduation date.
- Format for manuscript option
  - In order to be considered “DONE”, both requirements below must be completed
    - The final version of entire document must be electronically submitted to the graduate school
    - The manuscript must be submitted to a peer-reviewed journal by the same date that the electronic version of the dissertation is submitted to the graduate school
  - Chapter 1
    - Overview of study (an expanded abstract)
    - Format of the entire thesis (TOC in paragraph format)
  - Chapter 2
    - Literature review
  - Chapter 3 (entire manuscript)
    - Introduction
    - Methods
    - Results
    - Discussion
      - Implications for the Field/Future Research
      - Limitations

(Please note: None of this content will be shortchanged during the oral defense just because the written document is in an abbreviated form (manuscript form).)

- Chapter 4
  - Summary
- Appendices
  - Methods
  - Tables
  - Figures
  - Survey instruments
  - Consent forms
  - IRB application
  - IRB approval form
  - Etcetera
- References