UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE (UMES)  
ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP (ORLD) DOCTORAL PROGRAM  

QUANTITATIVE DISSERTATION PROPOSAL OUTLINE 

Note: The Dissertation Proposal Outline is completed in preparation for the Initial Dissertation (IM) meeting; it becomes the foundation for the 3-chapter dissertation proposal 

NAME______________________________________    DATE SUBMITTED______________ 

Proposed Title of Your Dissertation: 

Introduction to the Study (e.g., background, context), 1-2 pgs. 

Major Theoretical Frameworks (e.g. transactional/transformational leadership, contingency theories of leadership – Fiedler, House, Kerr & Jermier – LMX, strategic leadership theory, emergent theories such as spiritual leadership, chaos and complexity theory, authentic leadership, etc), 2-3 pgs. 

Purpose of the Study 

Significance of the Study (describe how will this research contribute to the existing body of literature on organizational leadership and who will benefit from the results – be specific)

Research Hypotheses (specify the main theory derived research hypotheses to be answered by this study)

Major Empirical Studies (list at least five (5) empirical studies that have addressed your research topic (references only; should include at least one empirical study representing each of the predictor variable and 1 or 2 representative of the criterion variable)

Research Design (describe the basic design elements including type of study (i.e., survey methodology, experimental, quasi-experimental design, network analysis, action research, etc.)

Research Participants (describe sample and underlying population, how participants will be recruited, specify sample size and the procedure to be used to estimate sample size)

Instrumentation (identify the specific measures that will be used to operationalize the constructs of interest)
Data Collection Procedures (describe how the data will be collected, how the instruments will be distributed among research participants, treatment of nonresponses)

Data Analysis (describe how the data will be analyzed, statistical techniques to be applied such as stepwise, hierarchical or logistic regression, MANOVA, MANCOVA, discriminant or cluster analysis and other multivariate statistics)

Limitations and delimitations (use the following definition)
  a. Limitations – refer to restriction in a study over which the researcher has no control. For example, you may be limited to only a narrow segment of the population you wish to study, or you may be limited by the method you elect to use,
  b. Delimitations – imply limitations on the research design that the researcher has deliberately imposed. These delimitations usually restrict the populations to which the results of the study can be generalized (Rudestam & Newton, 2001, p. 90)

Ethical Issues (describe the proposed procedures to ensure confidentiality, anonymity, informed consent; IRB)

References


Proposed Timeline
IM
Proposal Defense
Data Collection
Dissertation Defense
Graduation

RAC Committee
Chair (Member 1):
Member 2:
Member 3:
Member 4:
Member 5: