

**CE 499: Undergraduate Research Thesis in Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering  
Grading Rubric**

**(3 credit hour, 1 semester option)**

	<b>Poor/Incomplete (below 65 pts)</b>	<b>Moderate/Developing (65 -74 pts)</b>	<b>Competent (75 - 84 pts)</b>	<b>Accomplished (85 -94 pts)</b>	<b>Exemplary (95-100 pts)</b>
<b>Development of Literature Review and Research Plan (30%)</b>  <i>(Due Week 5)</i>	Incomplete understanding of the problem, research strategy, and limitations when assisted by the instructor	Understands the problem, the research strategy, and the limitations of the approach when assisted by the instructor, but requires a high level of supervision; literature review is primarily a summary of papers	Able to understand the problem, the research strategy, and the limitations or the strategy when explained by the instructor	Able to understand the problem, devise a research strategy that can be implemented with limited assistance, and consider limitations of the research method; critical literature review	Able to understand the problem, devise a research approach independently or suggest a novel approach, and demonstrate a solid understanding of the limitations of the proposed research method
<b>Execution of Research Plan (20%)</b>	Does not complete the research protocol, is unreliable, and is not competent with the research techniques	Completes a small component of the research protocol and demonstrates proficiency in some of the research methods and techniques	Completes the majority of the research protocol and demonstrates proficiency with the majority of the research methods and techniques	Completes the research protocol and demonstrates proficiency with the research methods and techniques	Completes the research protocol and demonstrates a high skill level with all of the research methods and techniques
<b>Data Analysis (20%)</b>	Does not complete the data analysis or demonstrates incompetence in the data analysis methods	Completes some, but not all, of the data analysis or needs frequent correction	Nearly completes the data analysis or requires some minor correction	Completes the data analysis without need for correction	Completes the data analysis without correction and is able to independently understand and analyze the significance of the data
<b>Written Thesis (30%)</b>  <i>(20% if assessment includes Oral Presentation)</i>	Does not complete the written report, incorrectly reports the results, is unable to write an abstract, poor construction of tables and figures	Misses some major features of the results, or tables; figures and text need significant editing	Completes the major points in the abstract, introduction, methods, results, conclusions, and references; completes figures and tables; but some editing and corrections remain	Completes the major points in the abstract, introduction, methods, results, conclusions, and references; completes figures and tables.	Manuscript is complete and well-written. Figures and tables are complete and well-designed. All important conclusions of the research are accurately reported in the manuscript.
<b>Oral Presentation (10% if included in Research Contract)</b>	Unable to communicate and articulate the methods and conclusions in a way that others can understand; Grammar is poor	Arguments are unclear and poorly structured. Does not present the material at a level appropriate for the audience. Some grammatical errors.	Arguments are sometimes unclear. Some material is not presented at a level appropriate for the audience.	Arguments are clear. Presentation follows a logical order. Material is presented at the appropriate level.	Presentation is well articulated. Findings are presented in an appropriate style and format. Grammar is excellent. Uses media effectively.

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**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Research Advisor:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

**Research Committee Member:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

	<i>Points = %/100 x pts</i>
<b>Development of Research Plan and Literature Review</b>	
<b>Execution of Research Plan</b>	
<b>Data Analysis</b>	
<b>Written Thesis</b>	
<b>Oral Presentation (if included)</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	

By cosigning the form, the **Research Committee Member** confirms the grading of the Research Plan/Literature Review, Thesis, and Oral Presentation (if included).

Points	Grade
97-100	A+
93-96.9	A
90-92.9	A-
87-89.9	B+
83-86.9	B
80-82.9	B-
77-79.9	C+
73-76.9	C
70-72.9	C-
67-69.9	D+
63-66.9	D
60-62.9	D-
<60	F

Standard rounding rules apply

**Comments:**