Qualitative Research Rubric (300 pts)
Total Words: Minimum 7400, see below for approximate word counts for different sections. Page count is 25-41 pages.

Name _____ Total Grade ___/300

Content Knowledge Grade: __/75 *Discovery & Inquiry Grade__/45* *Critical Thinking Grade __/90* *Social Responsibility Grade __/30*
Numeracy Grade __/30 *Communication Grade __/30*

The qualitative research paper is worth 300 points. The paper should include the following sections:	**Exemplary**	**Proficient**	**Marginal**	**Unacceptable**
Abstract: *Discovery & Inquiry* (__/15) 1. Academic justification for study 2. Purpose of study 3. Basic type and method used 4. Results 5. Conclusion length: not to exceed 250 words	All relevant aspects from this section are included. They reflect excellent understanding of content and how this study adds to the literature through a solid, concise synthesis. (15-13)	All relevant aspects from this section are included. They reflect a competent understanding of content and how this study adds to the literature through a solid, concise synthesis. (12)	One or more aspects from this section are missing. Marginal understanding of content and how this study adds to the literature is reflected. (10-11)	Does not adhere to the format required by an abstract. Few of the elements appear in any logical, recognizable manner. (0-9)
Introduction: *Content Knowledge* (__/15) 1. General phenomenon length: 600-1000 words, 2-4 pages	Shows evidence of excellent understanding of the background content that frames the gap, issue, or problem addressed in the paper. Very clear substantiated points through relevant citations. (15-13)	Shows evidence of a competent understanding of the background content that frames the gap, issue, or problem addressed in the paper. Points are proficiently substantiated through citations. (12)	Demonstrates marginal understanding of the background content that frames the gap, issue, or problem addressed in the paper. Points are not substantiated by citations well or minimally so. (10-11)	Reader gains no sense that the writers know what they are talking about. The overview is brief and could have been written without any review of literature. (0-9)

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Introduction: *Discovery & Inquiry* (___/15) 2. Academic justification for study such as the limitations of current literature or existing gaps in literature. 3. Statement of Purpose	Exemplary statement of an issue, gap in literature or problem to be addressed. Then, clearly states the purpose of the study. (15-13)	Competently states an issue, gap in literature or problem to be addressed. Then, states the purpose of the study. (12)	Gives a marginal description of the issue, gap in literature, or problem to be addressed. Alternately, one or more of the other elements is either unclear or missing. (10-11)	Does not address any of the points and leaves the reader unsure of direction of paper. The purpose is not framed well at all. (0-9)
Review of Literature: *Content Knowledge* (___/30) 1. Synthesize relevant literature that provides a coherent and comprehensive, but focused, background to your study. (This focuses on WHAT people already know about the phenomenon you studied) 2. Substantiate all your major points, with citations. Length: 2300-3500 words, 8-12 pages	Review evidences an excellent understanding of the details with respect to content. (27-30)	Review evidences a competent understanding of the details with respect to content. (24-26)	Review evidences marginal understanding of the details with respect to content. (21-23)	Review does not successfully indicate a scholarly review nor does it do a good job at framing your study with respect to your content. (0-20).
Review of Literature: *Discovery & Inquiry* (___/15)	Reader has a sense that you are exceptionally well read in the subject and have brought together the most relevant content information to frame your study in a scholarly manner. (13-15)	Reader has a sense that you are proficiently well read in the subject and have brought together relevant content information to frame your study in a scholarly manner. (12)	Reader has a sense that you have not read much and are bringing in personal opinion and knowledge to frame your study and/or is a simple listing and summary of studies. (10-11)	Reader has a sense that you have put forth very little effort to gain prior knowledge. (9-0)

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Conceptual/ Theoretical Framework: *Content Knowledge* (___/30) 3. Synthesize relevant literature that provides a coherent and useful description of the theoretical lens though which you make sense of your data. 4. Substantiate all the major points regarding your theoretical lens, with citations. 5. Be sure to note your approach to the study (i.e. critical standpoint, constructivist, post-positivist, etc.) Length: 900-1500 words, 2-5 pages	Review evidences an excellent understanding of the details with respect to content. Reader has a sense that you are exceptionally well read in the subject and have brought together the most relevant content information to frame your study in a scholarly manner. (27-30)	Review evidences a competent understanding of the details with respect to content. Reader has a sense that you are proficiently well read in the subject and have brought together relevant content information to frame your study in a scholarly manner. (24-26)	Review evidences marginal understanding of the details with respect to content. Reader has a sense that you have not read much and are bringing in personal opinion and knowledge to frame your study and/or is a simple listing and summary of studies. (21-23)	Review does not successfully indicate a scholarly review nor does it do a good job at framing your study with respect to your theoretical framework. (0-20)

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Methodology: *Numeracy* (___/30) 1. Explain why qualitative methodology and your particular form of data collection (semi-structured interviews, participant-observation, content analysis, case study, etc) was chosen. 2. Explain methods for selecting participants and describe any criteria you may have had for participants or briefly describe who you had. 3. Explain how you conducted the data collection. Describe ethical considerations. 4. Provide an in-depth description of the data analysis process that includes a clear description of coding procedures. 5. Briefly describe your role as a researcher and your personal perspective and position (reflexivity- addresses issues of trustworthiness). Length: 600-1200 words, 2-4 pages	All 4 points are addressed exceptionally well. (27-30)	All four points are addressed proficiently, but some are lacking in depth. (24-26)	One or more points may be missing or not described well at all while other points may be competently addressed. (21-23)	Most elements are missing. The descriptions are brief and unhelpful. The reader has no confidence that the researchers conducted a scholarly study. (0-20)

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Findings: *Critical Thinking* (___/60) 1. Thematically organize important findings from your study. 2. Revisit the literature as you present your findings, stating in what ways your findings either support, partially, support or do not support previous findings. 3. Findings are supported with specific, relevant evidence- quotes and other observations. Length: 2200-3100 words, 8-11 pages	Successful application of theoretical lens and content in the lit review to critically analyze and make sense of the findings. All findings are presented thematically in an exceptional manner. Specific examples illustrate the points being made very well. (60-54)	Proficient application of theoretical lens and content in the lit review to critically analyze and make sense of the findings. All findings are presented thematically in a competent manner. Specific examples illustrate the points being made well. (53-48)	Either marginally applies theoretical lens and content in the lit review to critically analyze and make sense of the findings or sometimes fails to connect findings to prior literature. Few findings are presented in a thematic manner. Examples are either too general or lacking clarity. (42-47)	Fails to analyze findings through theoretical lens and/or fails to connect findings to literature. It is simply a summary of what you found. No specific evidence to support your statements. (0-41)
Conclusions/ Discussion: *Critical Thinking* (___/30) Make sense of your findings by doing the following: 1. Remind reader of your original research question. 2. Summarize key findings. 3. Describe overall contribution the study makes to existing knowledge or understanding e.g. consider the findings in relation to relevant research-based literature. 4. Identify new areas where research is necessary, noting the limitations of your study Length: 800-1500 words, 3-5 pages	Exceptionally makes sense of findings by insightful, careful attention to all four points. (27-30)	Competently makes sense of findings by proficient attention to all four points. (24-26)	Marginally makes sense of findings. Some of the points are missing or not adequately addressed. Reader does not get what your research adds, nor why it is important. (21-23)	Does not make sense of findings, but rather simply summarizes what you said in previous section. Reader has limited or no sense of how this relates to the 'big picture' and why it is important. (0-20)

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Conclusion/ Discussion: *Social Responsibility* (___/30) 1. Adopt a critical stance as you come to conclusions about your findings, noting in what ways social issues continue and/or are challenged. 2. Discuss whether or how the findings can be transferred to other populations or consider implications of the research with respect to the sport administration profession.	Excellent adoption of a critical stance, reminding reader of theoretical framework that allows such critique. Very successfully considers implications for practice. (27-30)	Adequately adopts a Proficient adoption of a critical stance, reminding reader of theoretical framework that allows such critique. Competently considers implications for practice. (24-26)	Marginally adopts a critical stance, reader is not necessarily reminded of theoretical framework that allows such critique. Implications for practice are either unclear or not considered. (21-23)	No critical stance is taken and no implications for practice are considered. (0-20)
Communication aspects below apply to entire paper				
Organization (___/30)	Effectively organizes ideas. Develops ideas well and arranges them logically, flowing smoothly from one to another. Reader can follow line of reasoning. (27-30)	Adequately organizes ideas. Moderately develops ideas and arranges them logically. Does not always clearly link ideas to each other. For the most part, reader can follow line of reasoning. (24-26)	Intermittently organizes ideas clearly and only sometimes arranges them logically. Reader is sometimes confused and/or notices redundancies. (21-23)	The writing lacks any semblance of logical organization. The reader cannot identify a line of reasoning and loses interest. (0-20)
Sentence structure (__)	Sentences are well phrased and varied in length and structure. They flow smoothly from one to another. (-0)	Sentences are adequately phrased. The flow from sentence to sentence is generally smooth. (-1 to -4)	Some sentences are awkwardly constructed, and they represent an occasional distraction for the reader. (-5 to -8)	Errors in sentence structure are frequent enough to represent a major distraction to the reader. (-9 to -12)
Grammar, Spelling, Mechanics (i.e., Punctuation, Italics, Capitalization, etc.)	The writing is free or almost free of errors.	There are occasional violations in the	The writing has numerous errors and	Errors are so numerous that they

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(__)	(-0 to -1)	writing, but they don't represent a major distraction or obscure the meaning. (-2 to -4)	the reader is distracted by them. Meaning remains discernible. (-5 to -8)	obscure the meaning of the passage. The reader is confused and stops reading. (-9 to -12)
Word Choice (__)	Word choice is consistently precise. The writer goes beyond the generic word to find one more precise and effective	Word choice is generally good but generic (-1 to -3)	Word choice is merely adequate, and the range of words is limited. Some words are used inappropriately. (-4 to -8)	Many words are used inappropriately, confusing the reader. The writer may also use colloquial language. (-9 to -12)
Citations & References APA (__)	APA format is used accurately and consistently.	APA format is used with minor violations. (-1 to -4)	Format of document reflects incomplete knowledge of APA format, which may include errors such as omission of citations in instances they are needed. (-5 to -8)	Format of document is not recognizable as APA. (-9 to -12)
Cover page including title and author	Yes_____ No _____ (-1 to -4)			
Appendices (if necessary)				
Length: words- 7500-10,000 (excluding references), double spaced unless modified per APA guidelines	If fewer than 7500 words, paper is returned ungraded and penalized one grade.			
Times New Roman, font size 12 Margins: all 1 inch	Yes_____ No _____ (-1 to -2)			
Pages numbered consecutively (excluding cover page, abstract, and ToC- use my template!!)	Yes_____ No _____ (-1 to -6)			
Minimum 15 peer-reviewed references.	If fewer than 15 peer-reviewed references are cited within the text of the paper, the paper is returned ungraded until a minimum of 10 peer-reviewed references are included, which must be cited in text. Paper is penalized a minimum of one grade per missing cited reference.			