PH.D. ~~SUCCESS~~ SURVIVAL

CLASS PRESENTATION – OCTOBER 2022

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AREAS TO DISCUSS

Communication

Editing

To-do tracking

Defense

Examples

IN CONCLUSION,

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E BEST THESIS DEFENSE IS A GOOD THESIS OFFENSE.

COMMUNICATION & SOCIALIZATION

- It is ok to contact folks – Check-in, ask questions, follow-up (reasonable period of time) with missed communication, confirm requirements, etc.

- Biggest personal issue with UC is lack of transparency

  - Submit or return material, tends to be a giant question mark till something is returned. You don't know the status without asking, chair doesn't know status without trying to follow-up... whether this is QA or committee members. Some sort of github approach is done elsewhere and removes a lot of the wondering.

EDITING – PART 1

- You can argue edits
  - I don't know if it was used, but final QA resubmission I included with the edited dissertation a word document with "changed this, did not change this (and why), etc.)

- Accept that you might not like the "final" form, but that it also is potentially not the final form if you decide to do something with the research (Publish, incorporate into articles, etc.) A dissertation (in its highly formulaic and approach to writing) is NOT the last opportunity you will have to say on the topic.

- Also accept that you will likely get greatly annoyed during this process.
  - QA revisions had me stripping out or revising a number of elements that had been added during previous feedback cycles.

- 3rd party edit
  - Paid service or different source is acceptable. Style edits, reference checking, etc. Carefully, some scam paper-mill sort of place, so check reputation.

EDITING – PART 2

- Format/Grammarly

    - While passive voice (a reasonable amount) is allowed per APA7, "high Grammarly counts" trigger bounceback. I argued the over reliance on Grammarly to the chair of the IT PhD program and the Dean of the Graduate School and did not win. While it is a great indicator of issues, it is not always correct. One suggestion being accepted can change meaning or cause other grammar issues. That being said – it is what it is.

    - Wordcount/pagecount

        - Quantitative seems to focus more on the pagecount (my project wasn't quantitative), so keep an eye on being above this.

        - Qualitative, states a flexible format as long as it is above 45,000 word minimum. Good news and bad news on this. Wordcount, while the handbook states this doesn't include front or back matter, my dissertation at 48.5k, was slightly below this from chapters 1-5, but passed. However, QA also rejected the first submission as I had taken some slight liberty with the secondary headers from the template and stated that "L1 and L2 headers *must* match the template. While the template can't even agree between "study" and "project."

            - I caved on this issue. Decided to not press it with concern about the wordcount technicality. I did some minor rearranging and then set L3 headers.

TO-DO TRACKING/TASK MANAGEMENT

- To-Do tracking
  - Use something like todoist to keep track of the "little things" to do.
  - Make sure you stay on top of things, but also set tasks to "follow-up" after you have sent things off.

DEFENSE

Think about this early!

- Research questions, watch youtube defense prep videos, etc.

You will be sent a list of requirements at scheduling time as well.

Be sure to cover findings, but also what didn't go well. (This sets up the "what would you do different" question that you will almost certainly be asked.)

Consider what the next steps are (last part of presentation)… is it for others to do (no more interest in research for you) or for you to conduct the follow-up?

EXAMPLES/REFERENCES

CS Curricular Innovations with a Liberal Arts Philosophy.

Teresco, J. D., Tartaro, A., Holland-Minkley, Braught, G., Barnard, J. E., & Baldwin, D. (2022).

Proceedings of the 52nd ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education – SIGCSE '22, 537–543. https://doi.org/10.1145/3478431.3499329

A Hermeneutic Phenomenological Project Exploring The Adoption of Cybersecurity Into Liberal Arts Computing Programs.

Jakob Barnard(2022). Successfully defended October 6th, 2022.

Doctoral Dissertation submitted to the Faculty of the Graduate School in Partial Fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Information Technology. [Full Dissertation PDF (Pre-ProQuest publish link)]

Reflective Curriculum Review for Liberal Arts Computing Programs.

Barnard, J., Braught, G., Davis, J., Holland-Minkley, A., Reed, D., Schmitt, K. (2022).

The Journal of Computing Sciences in Colleges – Papers of the 29th CCSC Midwestern Conference, 38(4), 58-60. https://dl.acm.org/journal/jcsc [DOI Forthcoming]

Computer Science Curricular Guidelines: A New Liberal Arts Perspective.

Holland-Minkley, A., Barnard, J., Barr, V., Braught, G., Davis, J., Reed, D., Schmitt, K., Tartaro, A., Teresco, J. D. (2023).

Proceedings of the 53rd ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education – SIGCSE '23, [Pre-publication abstract]

Examples of how to use material for publication: https://drbarnard.one/publications/

Barnard Dissertation & Defense Presentation: https://drbarnard.one/publications/dissertation/

Dissertation Final Files (ProQuest Link forthcoming):

- Full Dissertation PDF (Pre-ProQuest publish link)
- Dissertation Acknowledgements PDF
- Dissertation Defense Presentation PDF

THANK YOU!

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