

# A GUIDE TO WRITING YOUR DOCTORAL METHODOLOGY FOR DISSERTATION

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A GUIDE TO WRITING YOUR DOCTORAL METHODOLOGY FOR DISSERTATION? IF SO, CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING GUIDE THAT WILL HELP YOU COME UP WITH AN EFFECTIVE AND IMPRESSIVE METHODOLOGY. THIS GUIDE WILL INCLUDE HOW TO WRITE THE METHODOLOGY AND WHAT IT SHOULD LOOK LIKE.  
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## A GUIDE TO WRITING YOUR DOCTORAL METHODOLOGY FOR DISSERTATION

The methodology section appears after the literature review and it should flow organically. In writing your methodology, you need to define your research question as well as conduct a detailed review of what other people say about your topic.

### **What Your Methodology Should Look Like**

Your methodology needs to present a clear relationship between existing scholarship and research question. No matter what section of methodology you are writing, you need to include these things:

- **Research question recap:** You need to make a recap of your key questions in introducing your methodology. This does not need to be word for word restatement because you need to re-word your problem bridging your methodology and literature.
- **Method or design description:** This is the focus of your methodology. In this part, you need to explain clearly the process for analyzing and gathering data as well as approaching the research question. This needs to be detailed and clear.
- **Rationale and background of design choice:** The methodology does not need to describe your method, but it should also discuss your reasons why you chose it. You also need to explain why you believe that it will give the best results, the best analyses and conclusions.
- **Evaluation of method choice and statements of limitations:** You need to be upfront and be honest about the limitations of your method. Also, make sure to be ready in justifying why it is the best approaches.

### **Common Types of Dissertation Methodology**

- **Scientific study:** In the methodology section of scientific study, you need to emphasize reproducibility and rigor. Ensure that your methods appear robust to readers with no mistakes in the execution or design. You should not also include essential details about lab set up, equipment as well as procedure to allow researcher in reproducing your method.
- **Behavioral or social sciences:** This methodology needs to demonstrate reproducibility and rigor that allows researcher to reproduce your study in part or completely for their ends. In answering questions, you need to satisfy your readers that you are able to consider all ethical questions that are associated with your research.

- Humanities or arts methodology: The methodology section for humanities or arts dissertation is more closely linked to literature review than social or scientific study.

## **What Methodology Should Not Include**

These are things that you need to include in your dissertation methodology:

- Extensive methodologies review: If you want to refer to precedents and theorists, do not include this in your methodology because this appears on the literature review chapter.
- Detailed and long lists of equipment or too much procedural detail: The methodology section should allow readers to reproduce your own research. As much as possible, you need to recreate your work in your dissertation body. Do not write your methodology like a shopping list. The best way to do this is to move some of the detailed content to the appendix.
- Raw data: Your methodology section is not a place in reproducing data. If you want to illustrate some data-gathering mechanic, then you can put it into the appendix section and refer to it. Do not put too much information in your methodology, especially if you can put it into other sections.

## **Deciding on Your Methodology**

If you are starting your dissertation project, you already have broad ideas about your methodology. You can discuss these ideas with your supervisor and develop it further by reading other previous work that other scholars have done in their field. Regardless, your methodology dissertation will develop when you review your literature and refine your research questions. Your methodology and literature review will develop as you go on. Your methodology will already be decided the time you write your literature review.

## **What Makes the Best Methodology?**

A doctoral dissertation is expected to be more of substantial and of high quality. The best dissertations will be publishing by scholarly monographs or leading journals. It is essential to remember that your dissertation should not just be about conclusions or findings.

Coming up with methodology that is grounded and original, then it will be the best aspect of your work. Keep in mind that the best dissertations are those that completely convince at each level, wherein it is based on rigorous engagement. In developing your methodology, you should not just think how it will answer certain

question, but think also how it will be transferable, whether it can be more adaptable or whether it can be used by other people.

## Presenting the Methodology

The dissertation methodology is the engine that will drive your dissertation, wherein it should be theoretically rigorous, grounded and sufficiently adaptable in order to be used in some other contexts in answering different research questions.

### Things to Remember

Here are some points you need to keep in mind in writing your dissertation. You need to ensure that you write your methodology section in relation to your topic and method that you choose.

- The methodology is an essential section of your dissertation demonstrating both your capacity in designing original research and ability in synthesizing different range of information that you already read.
- It is not only conclusions and results that prove valuable to other people; they made decide to adapt or use your methodology in different context that has not yet occurred to you. Your methodology dissertation should offer value and it should be reproducible and rigorous.
- The methodology section will allow you to justify and rationalize approach that you have taken in your research questions as well as to define your own criteria for your project success. Make sure to take care of the rhetorical presentation of your methodology to make sure about its merits, wherein your conclusions and results are all presented in the best light.

Finally, the methodology section of your dissertation is an essential part of your project that is why you need to do well in constructing it. As much as possible, you need to give enough time gathering all the details you need so that you can make a rigorous and honest methodology dissertation.