

Outstanding Graduate Student Thesis Award Nomination and Evaluation Form

Name: _____ **Department:** _____
Institution: _____ **Years in Higher Education:** _____
Student Name: _____
Thesis Title: _____
Nature of Evaluation (circle one): student adviser department chair external evaluator

Directions

Encouraging and recognizing outstanding work at the graduate level is important at Buffalo State. Towards that end, the following criteria have been established to evaluate master's theses. We ask that you use these criteria to objectively evaluate the work that has been nominated for the Outstanding Graduate Thesis Award. We ask department chairs and external evaluators to send their evaluation directly to the office of The Graduate School, attention Graduate Award Committee (Grover Cleveland 204, 1300 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, NY 14222-1095).

Please provide your opinion of this work by circling a response for each of the following statements.

Award Criteria

1. **Originality of work:** The thesis addresses a unique question or issue in the respective field of study.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
strongly disagree		disagree		neutral			agree		strongly agree

2. **Significance of the research question or subject studied:** The area addressed by the thesis is of significant value to the field of study.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
strongly disagree		disagree		neutral			agree		strongly agree

3. **Appropriateness of the approach:** The approach taken in the thesis is well-suited to the purpose of the study.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
strongly disagree		disagree		neutral			agree		strongly agree

4. **Soundness of the conclusions and interpretations:** The conclusions, interpretations, and implications are appropriate given the findings of the study.

1	2	3	4	5
strongly disagree	disagree	neutral	agree	strongly agree

5. **Best Practices:** The thesis provides information and implications relevant to practice in the field of work.

1	2	3	4	5
strongly disagree	disagree	neutral	agree	strongly agree

6. **Potential contribution to the field through publication:** The thesis research is worthy of publication in peer reviewed journals or through other forms of professional publication.

1	2	3	4	5
strongly disagree	disagree	neutral	agree	strongly agree

7. **Potential for conference presentations:** The thesis is viable for acceptance at a professional conference in the respective field of study.

1	2	3	4	5
strongly disagree	disagree	neutral	agree	strongly agree

8. **Style:** The thesis is well written (i.e., grammar, spelling, coherent, etc.)

1	2	3	4	5
strongly disagree	disagree	neutral	agree	strongly agree

9. **Soundness of organization:** Thoughts and ideas are presented in a logical fashion.

1	2	3	4	5
strongly disagree	disagree	neutral	agree	strongly agree

10. **Adherence to correct editorial writing style:** Thesis reflects the writing style appropriate to the discipline (e.g., APA, etc.).

1	2	3	4	5
strongly disagree	disagree	neutral	agree	strongly agree

11. **Overall evaluation:** Given your familiarity with graduate student work in this field of study, how would you rate the overall quality of this thesis.

1	2	3	4	5
below average (below top 50%)	fair (in top 50%)	good (in top 30%)	very good (in top 20%)	excellent (in top 10%)

12. **Comments:** Below please add any comments that would help the committee in evaluating this thesis.