## Competency #3: To analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems and make decisions.

**Learning Goal A:** Analyze, evaluate, and draw valid conclusions from social science research.

**Learning Goal C:** Conduct social science research such as policy, applied, or evaluation research.

### Focal Area | Above Standard (3) | Meets Standard (Proficient) (2) | Below Standard (Developing) (1) | Fails to Address Requirement (Beginner) (0)
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**Purpose/Problem Identification (Goal A and C)** | Clearly identifies a focused and valid purpose, topic, or problem, making a strong and relevant connection to policy/practice where applicable. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: | Clearly identifies an adequate purpose, topic, or problem, making a connection to policy/practice where applicable. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: | Identifies a vague purpose, topic, or problem. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: | Does not identify a coherent purpose, topic, or problem. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: |
**Research Design/Strategy (Goal C)** | All elements of the methodology or theoretical framework are skillfully developed. Thoroughly describes the research design and strategy used to identify/produce relevant evidence. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: | Most elements of the methodology or theoretical framework are fully developed. Adequately describes the research design and strategy used to develop relevant evidence. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: | Few elements of the methodology or theoretical framework are fully developed. Minimally describes the research design and strategy used to identify/produce relevant evidence. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: | Few to no elements of the methodology or theoretical framework are developed. Fails to accurately describe the research design and strategy used to develop relevant evidence. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: |
**Evidence (Goal A and C)** | Identifies comprehensive and relevant evidence. Demonstrates clear knowledge and understanding of the information and sources. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: | Identifies adequate and relevant evidence. Demonstrates sufficient knowledge and understanding of the information and sources. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: | Identifies vague or insufficient evidence. Demonstrates inadequate knowledge and understanding of the information and sources. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: | Does not identify reasonable evidence nor demonstrates any knowledge or understanding of the information and sources. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: |
**Analysis And Evaluation (Goal A and C)** | Systematically and methodically examines the evidence and carefully evaluates the significance and meaning of the data and/or information. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: | Adequately examines the evidence and evaluates the significance and meaning of the data and/or information. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: | Vaguely examines the evidence and insufficiently evaluates the significance and meaning of the data and/or information. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: | Does not coherently examine the evidence nor evaluates the significance and meaning of the data and/or information. Course/Assignment Specific Insert: |
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| Conclusion (Goal A and C) | States a thorough conclusion based on data/information (either as a separate section or within main narrative) and/or a set of logical, and relevant recommendations as well as limitations and implications when applicable. Course/Assignment-Specific Insert: | States an adequate conclusion based on data/information (either as a separate section or within main narrative) and/or a set of logical and relevant recommendations as well as limitations and implications when applicable. Course/Assignment-Specific Insert: | States a vague conclusion based on data/information (either as a separate section or within main narrative) and/or a set of insufficient recommendations as well as limitations and implications when applicable. Course/Assignment-Specific Insert: | Does not state a coherent conclusion based on data/information nor a set of recommendations as well as limitations and implications when applicable. Course/Assignment-Specific Insert: |
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