**Title of Your Capstone Project Here (bold, center aligned)**

by

Your First Middle Initial Last Name

Thesis

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the

Master of Science Degree in Education

Graduate Studies

Martin Luther College

New Ulm, MN

Month Year

**Signature Page**

Date:

This thesis paper has been examined and approved.

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John Meyer

Director of Graduate Studies

# Abstract

Include a concise abstract of the paper. The page is collated within the thesis immediately following the signature page.

Abstracts should be about 100-200 words in length and Times New Roman, 12 point. Consult the APA manual for some tips regarding the qualities of a good abstract. Pay close attention to grammar and spelling; papers with misspellings and typographical errors will be returned as will abstracts that do not follow the format as illustrated in this document.

**Acknowledgments**

Many students like to acknowledge people who have significantly contributed to their graduate education on this page and are welcome to do so. Remember, however, that Acknowledgmentsare not part of the scholarly work. Acknowledgmentsand its page number are not listed in the Table of Contents.

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If you’ve constructed more than one table and plan to place them in the body of your paper, include a list of them here. List the table number, name, and page on which the table can be found (example above).

Not all papers will have a List of Tables (see above).

See the current APA manual for samples and formatting requirements.

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Not all papers will have a List of Figures.

See the current APA manual for samples and formatting requirements.

# Chapter I: Introduction

## Problem Statement

Statement of the problem should include the basic difficulty, area of concern, and/or perceived need for the study.

## Purpose of the Study

Discuss the goal - emphasize practical outcomes or products.

## Research Questions

Write the research questions that drive the study.

## Definition of Terms

### First term. The definition begins on the same line as the term. Include terms that may not be well understood by a layperson outside of your field. If you use the exact words of a definition - from a dictionary, for instance - indicate that it is quoted material by adding the citation.

### Next term. Type its definition, here. Format each new term just as you would any new paragraph.

### Next term. Definition ……..

## Assumptions and Limitations of the Study

Discuss any assumptions and the study’s limitations here.

## Overview

Briefly outline the remainder of the paper and what is to come in the next chapter. Use the appropriate tense (past, present, or future) based on the context of the material being written.

# Chapter II: Literature Review

## Introduction

The format of each heading and sub-heading depends upon its level according to the current APA manual.

## Next Heading

The format of each heading and sub-heading depends upon its level according to the current APA manual.

## Next Heading

Add as many headings as needed.

## Summary

Write the chapter summary here.

# Chapter III: Methodology

## Introduction

Begin with an introduction. Some suggestions include reiterating the statement of the problem and briefly discussing what this chapter will include. Sections to be addressed might include subject selection and description, instrumentation, data collection procedures, data analysis, and limitations.

## Research Question(s)

State the research question or questions.

## Research Design and Procedures

Describe the research design and procedure.

## Population and Sample

Discuss the sample and population. Include how the data was collected.

## Instrumentation

Talk about the instruments used.

## Data Analysis Procedures

Discuss the statistical or other data analysis procedures used.

## Limitations

Discuss methodological limitations or procedural weaknesses.

## Summary

Summarize the main points of the methodology.

# Chapter IV: Results

## Introduction

Start with another introduction, you might briefly reiterate the purpose of the study and how it was conducted, e.g. a survey was given... Your sub-headings for this chapter also will vary considerably: some people use each question as a sub-heading and some don’t. If you do use each question as a sub-heading, write out the question rather than just “Question 1.” The purpose is to provide the reader with *at a glance* information about the nature and scope of your paper.

## Data Analysis

Use tables when appropriate, but don’t overuse them or discuss the whole table in text. Discuss the high points in text, providing the table for further details. All tables should conform to the APA style manual. Tables are different than *figures*, name and refer to them appropriately. Information about *figures* can be found in the current APA manual.

## Summary

Write a summary of the results.

# Chapter V: Summary, Conclusions, and Recommendations

## Introduction

Again, start with an introduction. Summarize what has happened in your paper so far. This chapter will also vary considerably in headings and organization; what follows is a suggestion or possibility.

## Summary of the Results

State the results.

## Conclusions

Discuss the high points of your findings. This discussion should include a thorough discussion of the research question or questions, literature review, and the results. There should be a relationship to the literature review. Did your study correlate with previous research or did you find something different?

## Recommendations

Recommend some further research or a change in practices.

# References

Make sure that everything you cite in text is also in the reference list and vice versa. Below are examples of a journal and a book entry. Consult the current APA manual for additional examples.**Notice that entries use a hanging indent set at ½ inch, are single spaced, and have a blank line between each entry.**

Clough, M. (1992). Research is required reading. *The Science Teacher*, *59*(7), 36-39.

Cochran-Smith, M. (2001). Higher standards for prospective teachers. *Journal of Teacher Education, 52*(3), 179-181.

# Appendix A: Assessment Activity

Place materials into an appendix if it would be distracting to include it right in the body of your document. Each appendix begins on a new page and follows the same general formatting as the body of the document. See the current APA manual for specifics.

# Appendix B: Assessment Rubric

Place materials into an appendix if it would be distracting to include it right in the body of your document. Each appendix begins on a new page and follows the same general formatting as the body of the document. See the current APA manual for specifics.