

**Dissertation Defense Decision Form**

**LIBERTY UNIVERSITY  
HELMS SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT**

---

**Chair:** After completing the form, email it to [HSOGDoctoralPrograms@liberty.edu](mailto:HSOGDoctoralPrograms@liberty.edu).

Date	February 15, 2022
------	-------------------

Title	The Family Connection: Examining the Transitional Impact on Family Members of Returning Citizens Reentering Society
-------	---

Role	Name
Candidate	Leon Rankins
Chair	Douglas A. Orr, Ph.D.
Committee Member	Jared Linebach, Ph.D.
Committee Member	

**Committee Decision**

- Approved with minor or no further revisions  
 Provisionally approved with major revisions  
 Not approved with recommendations to revise or rewrite

Explain decision (as applicable):

Mr. Rankins presented his defense offering all of the necessary elements called for by the manual. He has also demonstrated by way of this presentation that he made a substantial contribution to this body of knowledge. His presentation can be viewed [here](#).

List revisions needed (if applicable):

N/A

**(For final dissertation defense only, please continue to the rubrics on the following pages.)**

**Candidate grade to be assigned for PADM 890 (please check one):**

**A**     **B**     **C**     **D**     **F**

**Presentation at Dissertation Defense Rubric** (Highlight the appropriate score for each category based on the candidate's presentation during the final defense)

	<b>Advanced</b> (3 pts)	<b>Proficient</b> (2 pts)	<b>Developing</b> (1 pt)
<b>Literature Review</b>	The presentation includes a complete representation of related research along with a complete written literature review to support and justify the research.	The presentation includes a complete representation of related research along with a complete written literature review to support and justify the research.	The presented literature review may be unclear or non-existent, and the written literature review does not fully justify the research.
<b>Theoretical Framework</b>	The presentation and the written literature review include a complete theoretical framework to fully support the research question(s).	The presentation and the written literature review include a theoretical framework to support the research question(s).	There is a brief or non-existent mention of the theoretical framework during the presentation and/or the literature review.
<b>Methodology</b>	The presentation and methodology chapter is written in correct format and includes clear, understandable and justified questions, objectives and/hypotheses.	The presentation and methodology chapter includes use of proper format, and appropriate questions, objectives and/or hypotheses.	The presentation and methodology chapter does not include proper formatting and/or does not include clear question, objectives, or hypotheses.
<b>Data Collection</b>	The candidate thoroughly and clearly articulates the design and related data collection procedures.	The candidate clearly describes the design or the data collection procedures.	The candidate mentions design and data collection procedures, but does neither clearly.
<b>Data Analysis</b>	The candidate clearly evaluates, synthesizes, and interprets educational research through presentation of data and findings.	The candidate evaluates and interprets educational research through presentation of data and findings.	The candidate does not clearly present findings and data analysis.
<b>Communication: Presentation</b>	The candidate is poised during the presentation, and clearly and fluently demonstrates effective communication in writing, while speaking, and while listening to others.	The candidate demonstrates poised and effective communication in writing, and while speaking during the presentation.	The candidate lacks poise, and does not present information clearly and effectively.

**Written Dissertation Manuscript Rubric** (Highlight the appropriate score for each category based on the quality of the final dissertation manuscript)

	<b>Advanced</b> (3 pts)	<b>Proficient</b> (2 pts)	<b>Developing</b> (1 pt)
<b>Introduction</b>	Candidate clearly articulates the nature of a research topic, including the relevant literature, the gap in research to be filled, the purpose, and the research design.	Candidate articulates the nature of a research topic, including the relevant literature, the purpose, and the research design.	Candidate is unable to articulate the nature of a research topic in an understandable fashion.
<b>Review of Literature</b>	The candidate includes a complete representation of related research along with a complete written literature review to support and justify the research.	The candidate includes a representation of related research along with a written literature review to justify the research.	The literature review may be unclear or non-existent, and the written literature review does not fully justify the research.
<b>Methods/ Approach</b>	The methodology chapter is written in correct format and includes clear, understandable and justified questions, objectives and/hypotheses.	The methodology chapter includes use of proper format, and appropriate questions, objectives and/or hypotheses.	The methodology chapter does not include proper formatting and/or does not include clear question, objectives, or hypotheses.
<b>Results/ Outcomes</b>	The candidate clearly evaluates, synthesizes, and interprets educational research through presentation of data and findings.	The candidate evaluates and interprets educational research through presentation of data and findings.	The candidate does not clearly present findings and data analysis.
<b>Discussion and Summary</b>	The candidate demonstrates complete ability to conduct and interpret a study through discussion of the findings and results to conduct an independent research investigation that contributes to the literature.	The candidate demonstrates ability to conduct and interpret a study that may contribute to the literature.	The candidate fails to demonstrate the ability to conduct and interpret a study. and discuss the results.
<b>Writing Quality</b>	The candidate utilizes skills in writing and	The candidate utilizes skills in writing and other	The candidate does not demonstrate skills

**Written Dissertation Manuscript Rubric** (Highlight the appropriate score for each category based on the quality of the final dissertation manuscript)

	Advanced (3 pts)	Proficient (2 pts)	Developing (1 pt)
	other forms of communication that are consistent with professional expectations at the doctoral level, including proper use of formatting.	forms of communication that are appropriate, including proper use of formatting.	in writing and use of proper formatting for completion of a dissertation.
<b>Professional Publication</b>	The candidate submits clear documentation (including a draft of an article) of plans and procedures for publication of the dissertation findings in a professional journal.	The candidate submits documentation and tentative plans for publication of the dissertation findings in a professional journal.	The candidate is unable to articulate plans for publication in a professional journal.

Disposition Rubric					
In your work with the doctoral candidate, has he or she displayed the following dispositions?	Strongly Agree (4 pts)	Agree (3 pts)	Neither Agree or Disagree (2 pts)	Disagree (1 pt)	Strongly Disagree (0 pt)
<b>Social Responsibility</b>	X				
<b>Commitment / Work Ethic</b>	X				
<b>Reflection</b>	X				
<b>Integrity</b>	X				
<b>Professionalism</b>	X				