**Chapter 1: Introduction**

**Chapter 2: Literature Review**

**Chapter 3: Methodology**

**Chapter 4: Findings**

**Chapter 5: Discussion, Implications, Recommendations**

**\*The dissertation reflects what the researcher has done as opposed to what the researcher plans to do. Thus, all writing concerning methods and findings are referenced as past tense. For example:**

* The focus of the research *was* on…
* Utilizing the interview and focus group data collection methods *enhanced* the study and *provided* two approaches by which…
* The data for this study *was* collected from three sources including focus groups, interviews, and non-participatory observations.

**\*All language regarding what the proposed study will incorporate must be removed and replaced with what has been completed by the researcher. In other words sample size that was proposed may have slightly changed and must be reflected to account for actual sample, not proposed sample.**

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| **CHAPTER 4: FINDINGS** | |
| **Thesis Requirements** | **Comments/Feedback** |
| **Overview**  Begin with restating the research problem statement and the research questions. Concisely describe significant trends or key themes in the data and information. Concisely describe the key results of implementing your research design. | This column size will auto adjust as comments are entered. |
| **Research Findings**  Consult Creswell to review the implications of presenting your detailed results sequentially. Regardless of the approach for presenting the findings, you must explicitly show the results for each research question. To make it easy for the reader to find the results of each research question, create a sub-section for each question. At the beginning of each sub-section, remind the reader what the question was and what steps were taken to arrive at an answer, possibly using a figure or table. |  |
| **Synthesis and Summary of Data**  Synthesize the data in a meaningful manner. Specify what was learned. What salient learning addresses the problem in this study? |  |
| **Contribution to Applied Practice**  How did the use of validated quality systems methods, tools, or techniques allow the researcher to arrive at the study’s findings? What is the contribution to applied practice and to the practitioner seeking to improve systems and processes addressed in this research? If your findings resulted in tangible changes within an organization that participated in the study, describe the process or organizational improvements. Summarize at a top level what was accomplished in Chapter 4 and foreshadow what Chapter 5 will address. |  |
| **CHAPTER 5: DISCUSSION, IMPLICATIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS** | |
| **Thesis Requirements** | **Comments/Feedback** |
| **Overview**  This chapter consists of a discussion of the results, the implications of the results, and evidence-based recommendations for further addressing the problem. Help the reader laser their focus on the study by restating the problem, summarizing the major themes that informed the literature review, summarizing the methodology and the findings. |  |
| **Contribution of the Study**  A doctoral dissertation must result in the creation of new information to add to the body of knowledge.  How has this study enhanced the relevant body of knowledge? Be as specific as possible. How do the findings relate to the research questions? How do the findings relate to the theoretical framework? Are the findings supported by the theory? How do the findings of this study differ from findings in other studies reviewed? |  |
| **Discussion and Implications**  What conclusions or implications might be evident from the analysis of the data? |  |
| **Recommendations**  Two types of recommendations typically characterize this section of a research project. One, there are recommendations that could reasonably be supported by scientific data discovered in the study, and that if implemented, could have a direct impact on the problem. Two, there are recommendations that are peripherally related to the focus of the research. Recommendations that are loosely related to the focus of the research might be used by other researchers to explore similar problems and could potentially inform future research. Based on what is known and not known about the problem, indicate potential directions for future research. |  |

**Research Credibility**

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| **List of References** | | | |
| **Thesis Proposal Requirements** |  | **Comments/Feedback** | |
| Dissertations are expected to include at least 150 references or more. |  |  |
| Number of total sources: |  |  |

**Appendix**

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| **Appendix** | | |
| **Thesis Proposal Requirements** |  | **Comments/Feedback** |
| Suggested last section if included. |  |  |