

**Table 2. Some Dimensions of the Different Components of the Generic Dissertation**

The following dimensions emerged from the analysis of the results of the study described in this article.

<p><b>Component 1: Introduction</b> The introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes a problem statement</li> <li>• Makes clear the research question to be addressed</li> <li>• Describes the motivation for the study</li> <li>• Describes the context in which the question arises</li> <li>• Summarizes the dissertation’s findings</li> <li>• Discusses the importance of the findings</li> <li>• Provides a roadmap for readers</li> </ul> <p><b>Component 2: Literature Review</b> The review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is comprehensive and up to date</li> <li>• Shows a command of the literature</li> <li>• Contextualizes the problem</li> <li>• Includes a discussion of the literature that is selective, synthetic, analytical, and thematic</li> </ul> <p><b>Component 3: Theory</b> The theory that is applied or developed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is appropriate</li> <li>• Is logically interpreted</li> <li>• Is well understood</li> <li>• Aligns with the question at hand</li> </ul> <p>In addition, the author shows comprehension of the theory’s</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengths</li> <li>• Limitations</li> </ul>	<p><b>Component 4: Methods</b> The methods applied or developed are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate</li> <li>• Described in detail</li> <li>• In alignment with the question addressed and the theory used</li> </ul> <p>In addition, the author demonstrates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An understanding of the methods’ advantages and disadvantages</li> <li>• How to use the methods</li> </ul> <p><b>Component 5: Results or Analysis</b> The analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is appropriate</li> <li>• Aligns with the question and hypotheses raised</li> <li>• Shows sophistication</li> <li>• Is iterative</li> </ul> <p>In addition, the amount and quality of data or information is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sufficient</li> <li>• Well presented</li> <li>• Intelligently interpreted</li> </ul> <p>The author also cogently expresses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The insights gained from the study</li> <li>• The study’s limitations</li> </ul> <p><b>Component 6: Discussion or Conclusion</b> The conclusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summarizes the findings</li> <li>• Provides perspective on them</li> <li>• Refers back to the introduction</li> <li>• Ties everything together</li> <li>• Discusses the study’s strengths and weaknesses</li> <li>• Discusses implications and applications for the discipline</li> <li>• Discusses future directions for research</li> </ul>
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