

## **Dissertation Outline**

Here is a generic outline for a five-chapter dissertation. The third chapter on methodology varies for a quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-method design. A four-chapter dissertation incorporates the literature review into the first chapter.

### **Chapter 1: Introduction**

- Introduction
- Background of the Problem
- Statement of the Problem
- Purpose of the Study
- Research Questions
- Significance of the Study
- Definition of Terms
- Assumptions, Limitations, and Delimitations
- Conclusion

### **Chapter 2: Review of the Literature**

- Introduction
- Search Description
- Conceptual or Theoretical Framework
- Review of Research (organized by variable or themes)

### **Chapter 3: Methodology (Quantitative)**

- Introduction
- Research Design
- Research Questions and Hypotheses
- Population and Sample
- Instrumentation
- Data Collection
- Data Analysis
- Conclusion

### **Chapter 3: Methodology (Qualitative)**

- Introduction
- Research Design
- Research Questions
- Setting
- Participants
- Data Collection
- Data Analysis
- Conclusion

### **Chapter 3: Methodology (Mixed)**

- Introduction
- Research Design
- Research Questions and Hypotheses
- Setting and Sample
- Data Collection
- Data Analysis
- Conclusion

### **Chapter 4: Research Findings**

- Introduction
- Findings (organized by Research Questions or Hypotheses)
- Conclusion

### **Chapter 5: Conclusions, Discussion, and Suggestions for Future Research**

- Introduction
- Summary of Findings
- Conclusions (organized by Research Questions or Hypotheses)
- Discussion
- Suggestions for Future Research
- Conclusion