



QSO 500 Milestone Two Guidelines and Rubric

Overview: For Milestone Two, you will explain the research design and methods that will be used to address the business problem you identified in Milestone One, justifying why they are appropriate for your research study. To support your research design, describe the methods you will use, the key variables, and ethical considerations involved in using the research design.

Prompt: Explain how you will carry out your research. Remember that your business problem should be able to be addressed using action research.

Specifically the following critical elements must be addressed:

Research Design:

- A. Explain the **research design and methods** you will use, justifying why they are appropriate for your research study.
- B. Describe the key **variables** from primary and/or secondary data sources that you will use to analyze your research problem.
- C. Explain the key **dependent and independent variables**. In other words, how would the independent variables predict, explain, or prove the dependent variable?
- D. Explain the key **ethical considerations** for using these data sources, including how they meet legal and professional standards.

Rubric

Guidelines for Submission: Your milestone must be submitted as a 5- to 7-page Microsoft Word document with double spacing, 12-point Times New Roman font, one-inch margins, and at least three sources cited in APA format.

Critical Elements	Proficient (100%)	Needs Improvement (75%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Research Design: Research Design and Methods	Explains the research design and methods that will be used, including justification of why this is appropriate for the study	Explains the research design and methods that will be used, but explanation is cursory, contains issues of clarity, or does not justify why this is appropriate for the study	Does not explain the research design and methods that will be used	20
Research Design: Variables	Describes all key variables from the primary/secondary data sources that will be used to analyze the research problem	Describes the variables from the primary/secondary data sources, but description contains issues of clarity or does not address all key variables	Does not describe the variables from primary/secondary data sources	20

Research Design: Dependent and Independent Variables	Explains the dependent and independent variables	Explains the dependent and independent variables, but explanation contains inaccuracies or neglects key variables	Does not explain the dependent and independent variables	25
Research Design: Ethical Considerations	Explains the key ethical considerations for using the data sources, including how they meet legal and professional standards	Explains the ethical considerations for using the data sources, including how they meet legal and professional standards, but explanation is cursory or neglects key ethical considerations	Does not explain the ethical considerations for using the data sources	25
Articulation of Response	Submission has no major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization	Submission has major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that negatively impact readability and articulation of main ideas	Submission has critical errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that prevent understanding of ideas	10
Total				100%