



Wilmington University Graduate Graduation Competencies: [Graduate Graduation Competencies](#)

Delaware Performance Appraisal System II: [DPAS II for Administrators](#)

Additional Course Information and Schedule of Class Activities will be posted on the course blackboard site

College of Education Attendance Policy:

In the College of Education, faculty must approve all requests for absences that are exceptions to the University policy. Vacations are not considered legitimate reasons for missing classes. Faculty must be contacted prior to class in all cases except valid emergencies. Failure to obtain approval for exceptions may result in lowering the final passing grade or assigning a FA (failure due to absence).

Candidates who have registered for a course and never attended the class at all will receive a grade of NA

<http://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/gen/literature-review-guidelines.aspx>

*Publication of the American Psychological Association* [APA Manual], 2010, 6<sup>th</sup> edition, 7<sup>th</sup> printing.

[Purdue OWL: APA Formatting and Style Guide](#)

Shulman, L. (2006).

Chapter 2: Methodology. This chapter provides information from the literature and data you

Candidate has identified a problem of practice.  
 Candidate has maintained regular communication with the advisor.  
 Candidate has signed permission from a school leader to perform the project.  
 Candidate has completed writing for Chapter 1 and has an outline of Chapter 2.  
 Candidate has revised and edited the project.  
 Candidate has successfully presented the plan to the full committee.  
 Candidate has gathered and analyzed information.  
 Candidate has framed the chapter by the questions that drive the study.  
 Candidate has conducted a literature review that is germane to the practical implementation of the study.  
 Candidate provides a glossary of terms or operational definitions, if needed.  
 Candidate produces a literature review that gives practices that have been successful in other settings and projects similarities and differences for his/her setting.  
 Candidate includes internal data that will help generate and inform the plan.  
 Candidate identifies any instruments (i.e. surveys, interview questions, Smart Balance, etc.) that may be used.  
 Candidate brings innovative notions, ideas, or approaches to the Problem of Practice (POP).  
 Candidate's plan includes the assessment of how the innovation worked. What parts were productive? What parts need refining? Where and how we should replicate this work?  
 Candidate's plan includes the predicted or desired outcome from the project.  
 Candidate's plan includes the activities that will take place in the project. Who within or outside of the direct organization is involved and who is not involved and why?  
 Candidate's plan includes a timeline of activities from initial planning and implementation, to methodology workings, through to final implementation.

### Summarizing

The Dissertation in Practice (DIP) is centered on the identification and attempt to solve the Problem of Practice (POP). The DIP is typically a three-chapter paper. In Chapter 1, the POP is identified and clearly stated, along with information about the context of the POP and why it is important to attempt a solution to it.

Chapter 1 should end with the focus questions to be answered to resolve the POP. The focus questions should frame Chapter 2. They should provide an outline for the candidate to follow in Methodology.

Here are some sample focus questions. They are generic and general, since they lack a definite POP. The order here may not fit the candidate's DIP, and that is fine. Their purpose is to give candidates a framework and some structure for Chapter 2.

What does the literature say about the POP?

What does the organization's data say about the POP?

What approaches were attempted in the past?

Why did earlier efforts not work?

What practices in the literature that fit the POP's context?

What innovative approaches should be tried?

What is the plan? Who will be involved?

How will you evaluate the outcome?

What will be done in 0.000BT/F1 11.04 Tf1 18 Tm(o attnse(roj)4(eco)12(m)-4( of)OP.00000912 0 612 792 reW\* nB

Advising Checklist

Methodology	Not MET	MET
<i>Review</i>		
What is the POP?		
Has the candidate maintained regular (weekly, bi-weekly, etc.) communication with the advisor?		

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## References

Belzer, A. (2013). Problem of Practice for an Organizational Improvement Plan. Retrieved from <https://www.edu.uwo.ca/graduate-education/documents/professional/Problem-of-Practice-Guide.pdf>

Bryk, A. S., Gomez, L. M., Grunow, A. (2010). Gettin