

Figure 1 Flowchart and Comparison Table

Dissertation Steps	Traditional Dissertation	Three-Paper Dissertation
1. Preliminary Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Graduate College Requirements Select a Dissertation Chair Select a Dissertation Format (if applicable) 	
2. Form a Dissertation Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select Committee Members Ensure Appropriate Committee Composition 	
3. Develop a Proposal Document	<p>Chapter 1: Introduction establishing importance of topic & specific aims</p> <p>Chapter 2: In-depth literature review</p> <p>Chapter 3: Methods</p>	<p>Chapter 1: Introduction establishing importance of topic & focused literature review</p> <p>Chapters 2, 3, and 4: Planned chapters with brief outline of Introduction and completed approach summary table for each data-based paper; suggested journals for papers</p>
4. Conduct the Dissertation Proposal Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Logistical Arrangements Conduct of the Meeting Expected Outcomes of Proposal Meeting 	
5. Complete Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data collection Data analysis Preparation of written document of all components per format (See #7) 	
6. Conduct Dissertation Defense	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule defense with committee during Academic Year; determine location Students are responsible for arranging meeting PhD Program Administrator will submit a formal request to the Graduate College Circulate dissertation document to committee 	
7. Format Approved Final Dissertation	<p>Chapters 1, 2 and 3: Revised to incorporate any changes required related to updates of the literature, changes in tense of the verbs, and changes related to implementation.</p> <p>Chapter 4: Present the results of the study.</p> <p>Chapter 5: Discussion of the results and as such should synthesize the knowledge that has been gained by the study; link the results to previous literature; discuss the limitations of the study; provide future research directions; and discuss implications for education, practice, and/or policy, as appropriate.</p>	<p>Chapter 1: Provide the overview of the research as laid out in the proposal.</p> <p>Chapters 2, 3, and 4: Each of the <i>three papers</i> (e.g., an analytical review of the literature or a meta-analysis, a methodology paper, and a data-based paper or multiple data-based articles with the literature review integrated into each paper).</p> <p>Chapter 5: The <i>concluding chapter</i> should summarize and integrate the major findings; synthesize the knowledge that has been gained by the research as presented in the three papers; discuss the limitations of the body of research; and enumerate future research and implications for education, practice, and/or policy, as appropriate.</p>
8. Submit Dissertation to Graduate College	Meets the standards defined by the Graduate College and expected by the Dissertation Committee.	
9. Publish Manuscripts Based on the Dissertation	<p>Identify papers to be published from dissertation.</p> <p>Write and submit papers for publication ASAP.</p>	<p>Submit papers for publication ASAP.</p> <p>Students can opt to embargo their dissertation (for one or two years), at or before the single thesis deposit deadline, to delay the release of their manuscript to allow time for publishing papers.</p>