

**Department of Leadership** 

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# Higher and Adult Education Comprehensive Exam Part 2: Theory Question

### **Your Question**

Define and analyze the critical concepts of a theory (adult learning theory, student development theory, leadership theory, etc.) from your coursework – or closely related field. How can this theory provide a framework for your dissertation research?

Be sure to include the following in the description and analysis of your theory:

Overview

History, including foundational scholars

**Key characteristics** 

Definitions of key terms

Strengths and weaknesses

Applications of the theory to education and other relevant fields

How can this theory provide a framework for your dissertation research?

#### How You Will Be Evaluated

This question will be evaluated based on the following five criteria:

- 1. Identification of a theory
- 2. Comprehensive description and analysis of your chosen theory
- 3. Thorough and clear explanation of how the theory provides a framework for your dissertation research
- 4. Conclusions and recommendations
- 5. Writing, use of APA, and references

## Scoring

**Exceeds Expectations:** 

Meets Expectations:

Fails to Meet Expectations:

#### Scope

This exam question should range from between 15-20 double-spaced pages, inclusive of references.