TYPICAL DISSERTATION OUTLINE

PRELIMINARIES
- Blank Front Cover Page (required, not counted, not numbered)
- Copyright Page (required, not counted, not numbered)
- Title Page (required, counted, not numbered—the title should be 15 words or less—the degree is)
- Doctor of Philosophy—date is the month and year of graduation on the final copy
- Approval Page (required, counted, not numbered)
- Dedication Page (optional, counted, not numbered)
- Table of Contents (required, counted, numbered—accurate page identification required)
- List of Abbreviations (required if used, counted, numbered—acronyms used)
- List of Tables (required if used, counted, numbered—tabular data)
- List of Figures (required if used, counted, numbered—figures, pictures, charts)
- Preface (required, counted, numbered—helpful persons and sources, including copyright permissions and acknowledgment of dissertation committee members)

CHAPTER 1: RESEARCH CONCERN
- Introduction to the Research Problem
- Research Purpose
- Research Questions
- Research Hypotheses (Quantitative Research Designs Only)
- Delimitations of the Study
- Terminology
- Research Assumptions
- Procedural Overview

CHAPTER 2: PRECEDENT LITERATURE
- Theological Underpinnings of the Study
- Theoretical Underpinnings of the Study
- Rationale for Study
- Profile of the Current Study

CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGICAL DESIGN
- Research Question Synopsis (Includes problem, purpose, and research questions and hypotheses)
- Research Design Overview
- Population(s)
  - Theoretical Population
  - Accessible Population
- Sample and Delimitations
- Limitations of Generalization
- Research Method
- Instrumentation
- Research Procedures
CHAPTER 4: ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS
- Compilation Protocol and Measures
- Demographic and Sample Data
- Data Analysis and Findings
- Evaluation of the Research Design

CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSIONS
- Research Purpose (verbatim restatement from chapter one)
- Research Questions
- Research Conclusions
- Research Implications
- Research Applications
- Research Limitations
- Further Research

REFERENTIALS