

## Main Source:

Document name	Science perspective   Critical appraisal checklist
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OpenLearn course	Succeeding in postgraduate study
OpenLearn url	<a href="http://www.open.edu/openlearn/education-development/succeeding-postgraduate-study/content-section-overview">http://www.open.edu/openlearn/education-development/succeeding-postgraduate-study/content-section-overview</a>

## Evaluation Criteria checklist

Criterion	YES	NO	N/A
The purpose of the study was clear	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A suitable literature review was present and covered the topic adequately	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The style of writing was easy to understand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The paper was well laid out and easy to follow	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The research design was clearly described	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The research design was consistent with the aims and the research question	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The research design was sensible and adequately implemented	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
An analysis of the sample size required was carried out	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The sample size was adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The study was appropriately controlled	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Groups were comparable in all aspects except for the variable being studied	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Data collection methods were adequately described and were appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The data were reported with sufficient detail	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Statistical tests were described and were appropriate for the type of data involved	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Baseline differences and confounding variables were adjusted for	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The authors did not make assumptions about the nature and direction of causality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>p</i> values and confidence intervals were calculated and interpreted appropriately	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The results presented were accurate and clear	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Discussion corresponded to, and was supported by, the data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discussion statements were reasonable and logical	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Results were discussed with reference to other important literature	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Conclusions agreed with the study's predetermined purpose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The limitations of the study were listed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Discussion and Conclusion do not speculate too far beyond what has been shown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
References were accurate and appropriately used	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
References were from respected (credible) evidence sources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

