

# 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.