Thesis Extension Questions

1. Describe your progress on your thesis thus far.

I have written out and had edits from my thesis reader the abstract, introduction, and methods of my research and I have also written out my literature review. I have already surveyed many of the pet stores I need for data analysis.

1. Describe the reasons for not completing your thesis by this quarter’s deadline.

I have unexpectedly had some major life changes that drastically altered the amount of time I had planned on having available for this quarter and last. Our landlord died so I had to scramble all last fall quarter to buy the house while looking for other places to live in case we could not secure a deal and now I am adjusting to running a house and duplex (two buildings on the same piece of property) as a landlord to cover the mortgage, I had to take on another job at the Waldorf school on top of my nanny job to cover expenses, and I got engaged so now my fiancée and I are using much of our time outside of work to get the duplex fixed and updated so we can move in together. When I started this final year of the masters program, I had planned on working only my nanny job, continue renting, and devoting most of my time to finishing school by this spring. With life rapidly becoming more complicated in such an unplanned fashion and developing into priority needs relating to maintaining housing, multiple jobs, and now a life long partner, I have been unable to be as on top of schoolwork as I had anticipated and its making me extremely stressed about the spring deadline and putting me in a not ideal state of health. I started in fall thinking I would have only one job and schooling to manage my time with but have now found myself in the position of having two official jobs, one unofficial job, an engagement/wedding to plan, and school.

1. Provide a detailed plan for completing your thesis during the next quarter.

 I plan on not working at Waldorf next quarter as I only need it as a temporary means to recoup finances after paying out so much of my savings for my house down payment. Many of the immediate needs of managing issues with both the house and duplex that I now must do instead of a call to the landlord will also be resolved by then as I learn how to better fill this new role. The repairs and move into the duplex will also be completed in early summer. The completion of these consuming life changes will drastically free up my time and energy and allow me to get back on track to finishing my thesis work. I plan to travel to the last few stores I need to survey and start to analyze the data during the remainder of this quarter. I plan on writing and getting edits on my results, discussion, and conclusion section this summer then create my presentation and final edits/formatting in the fall quarter. As my academic record shows, I have in the past always been on top of my assignments and I have never had a mid-quarter talk with a professor about being at a risk of failing a class. This is an unpleasant new experience for me but I do not wish to let these circumstances get the better of me and prevent me from completing the final steps to achieve my masters that I have already put so much work into.