

DISSERTATION and ORAL DEFENSE Competency Evaluation Form

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Dissertation Title: _____

Please rate the Final Exam on the following competencies using the following scale:

1 = Unsatisfactory

2 = Pass with Revisions

3 = Satisfactory

Theory

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 1. Dissertation document and defense includes relevant theories | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 2. Dissertation document and defense accurately identifies and articulates the degree of research support for relevant theories | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 3. Dissertation document and defense integrates relevant theory and empirical findings to generate predictions or research hypotheses | 1 | 2 | 3 |

Comments:

Scientific Foundation of Defense

| | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 4. Literature review is broad and comprehensive, with appropriate citation of relevant works | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 5. Literature review is balanced and without bias, including findings that both strengthen and weaken hypotheses | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 6. Dissertation document and defense demonstrates in-depth and sophisticated knowledge of the topic and areas related to the topic | 1 | 2 | 3 |

Comments:

Scientific Writing and Speaking

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 7. Writing is clear, concise, and scientific | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 8. Dissertation document and defense attributes ideas to appropriate sources, and uses references effectively to make specific points or arguments | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 9. Through the dissertation document, the student demonstrates the ability to disseminate information in written form | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 10. Through the defense, the student demonstrates the ability to disseminate information in oral form | 1 | 2 | 3 |

Comments:

Research methodology and analysis

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 11. The study is empirical and used measurable evidence to test specific hypotheses or explore logical or adequately reasoned research questions | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 12. The dissertation document and defense has clearly formulated goals, aims, and/or hypotheses | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 13. The research design was appropriate to test the hypotheses or answer the research questions | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 14. The analyses conducted are appropriate to the collected data and are best for addressing the hypotheses or answering the research questions | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 15. The analyses generated results that are interpretable for the hypotheses or research questions posed | 1 | 2 | 3 |

Comments:

Scientific Thinking

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 16. Dissertation document and defense combines and integrates theories and/or empirical findings to generate new integrative ideas and directions; goes well beyond simply listing and reviewing studies. | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 17. Dissertation document and defense provides an in-depth and accurate critique of existing literature, including an understanding of ambiguities and limitations. | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 18. Dissertation document and defense identifies what is actually demonstrated in the literature review, not simply what the authors of specific studies may have claimed was demonstrated | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 19. Dissertation document and defense includes testable hypotheses | 1 | 2 | 3 |

Comments:

Ethics & Individual/Cultural Diversity

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 20. All of the relevant ethical, legal, and/or professional standards or guidelines were appropriately identified and addressed in the defense and/or dissertation document | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 21. Ethical implications in the design and implementation of the research study were identified, addressed, and discussed in defense and/or dissertation document | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 22. The student sought consultation regarding complex ethical and legal dilemmas related to the defense and dissertation document | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 23. All applicable ethical principles and standards were addressed in the defense and dissertation document | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 24. Aware, knowledgeable, and skillful in considering issues of individual and cultural-diversity in the dissertation document and during the defense | 1 | 2 | 3 |

Comments:

Please rate the Professionalism section on the following competencies using the following scale:

1 = Unsatisfactory

2 = Pass with Concerns

3 = Satisfactory

Professionalism, Communication, and Interpersonal Skills

| | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 25. Behavior during defense was consistent with the professional values and codes of conduct of psychology | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 26. Student was professional in communications, physical conduct, and attire during defense | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 27. Student demonstrated appropriate and effective affective and self-regulatory skills during defense | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 28. Student demonstrated appropriate and effective communication skills during defense (e.g., clear and articulate verbal and non-verbal conveyance of information; effectively responds to questions/criticisms/concerns) | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 29. Student made good effort to maintain strong, effective, consistent, and appropriate interpersonal relationships with committee members during the preparation of the proposal | 1 | 2 | 3 |

Comments:

Overall Comments:

Chair Signature: _____ Pass?¹ Yes No

Co-Chair Signature: _____ Pass?¹ Yes No

Committee Member Signature: _____ Pass?¹ Yes No

Committee Member Signature: _____ Pass?¹ Yes No

Committee Member Signature: _____ Pass?¹ Yes No

¹ “Passed” is defined as 100% of competencies rated as 2 (Pass w/Revisions) or 3 (Satisfactory).