

PhD Dissertation Defense Completion Form

This document is used to certify the completion of the dissertation defense.

The following statement of completion and evaluation rubric were developed to document and ensure the quality of dissertations completed by UTHealth School of Public Health PhD students. Students and supervising faculty are encouraged to reference the evaluation rubric throughout the research process to ensure students are on track to successfully complete the dissertation. The criteria provided in the rubric below are not the only criteria by which students are assessed as the supervising faculty are encouraged to provide a comprehensive assessment.

Students are required to submit this form after successful completion of the dissertation defense to the Office of Academic Affairs and Student Services. Completion of this form is required for accreditation purposes.

Name: _____ Student ID: _____

Major: _____

The following approvals signify successful defense of the student's dissertation.

Committee Membership Approvals		
_____	_____	_____
<i>Advisor, Printed</i>	<i>Advisor, Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>Dissertation Chair, Printed</i>	<i>Dissertation Chair, Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>External Discipline Representative, Printed</i>	<i>External Discipline Representative, Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>Role: _____, Printed</i>	<i>Role: _____, Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>Role: _____, Printed</i>	<i>Role: _____, Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>Role: _____, Printed</i>	<i>Role: _____, Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>

Additional Required Approvals		
_____	_____	_____
<i>Department Chair, Printed</i>	<i>Department Chair, Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>

Submit documents with signatures to:
Office of Academic Affairs and Student Services at SPHStudentResearch@uth.tmc.edu

PhD Dissertation and Defense Evaluation Rubric

Successful completion of the thesis and presentation requires that students score a minimum total of 10.

To be completed by the Dissertation Supervisor in conjunction with input from all committee members:

Evaluation of the PhD Dissertation and Defense						
	Very Poor (0)	Below Average (1)	Average (2)	Above Average (3)	Excellent (4)	Score
Knowledge	Student did not sufficiently demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the area of study.	Student's demonstration of knowledge and understanding of the area of study was below average.	Student demonstrated sufficient knowledge and understanding of the area of study.	Student's demonstration of knowledge and understanding of the area of study was above average.	Student demonstrated outstanding knowledge and understanding of the area of study.	
Design	Student did not sufficiently describe the design and methods for their research-based study.	Student's description of the design and methods for their research-based study was below average.	Student sufficiently described the design and methods for their research-based study.	Student's description of the design and methods for their research-based study was above average.	Student clearly and comprehensively described the design and methods for their research-based study.	
Interpretation of Results	Student did not sufficiently interpret research findings and limits of the study.	Student's interpretation of research findings and addressing the limits of the study was below average.	Student sufficiently interpreted research findings and addresses limits of the study.	Student's interpretation of research findings and addressing the limits of the study was above average.	Student clearly and concisely interpreted research findings and addresses limits of the study.	
Implication of Findings	Student did not sufficiently articulate original ideas about the usefulness of the study's findings to public health.	Student's articulation of original ideas about the usefulness of findings to public health was below average.	Student sufficiently articulated original ideas about the usefulness of the student's findings to public health.	Student's articulation of original ideas about the usefulness of findings to public health was above average.	Student clearly articulated original and innovative ideas about the usefulness of the study's findings to public health.	
Communication	Written and oral presentation does not meet formatting, grammatical and clarity expectations.	Written and oral presentation is fair. Student's writing was not clear or concise. Student did a fair job delivering the oral presentation.	Written and oral presentation is sufficient. Student wrote with clarity and concision. Student did a good job delivering the oral presentation.	Written and oral presentation is good. Student's writing was clear and concise. Student's oral presentation was above average.	Thesis was very well written and in the appropriate format. Student did an outstanding job delivering and defending during the oral presentation.	
					Total:	

For Office Use Only

Office of Academic Affairs Representative

Date:

Student Plan Code: _____