

School of Industrial Engineering and Management

Doctoral Dissertation Defense

Objectives

- Demonstrate the student's ability to define, conduct, complete, communicate and defend original research.
- Demonstrate the student's ability to succinctly state and be recognized for original contribution to the profession.
- Demonstrate the student's ability to identify and communicate suggestions for further research.
- Provide the student and the advisory committee with feedback on strengths and weaknesses of the research methodology and the results.
- Provide the advisory committee with a means for assuring that the dissertation research methodology is correct, communicated clearly, and complete with respect to the previously approved dissertation proposal.
- Provide the advisory committee with a final data point for verification of the student's academic, conceptual, and research abilities at the Ph.D. level.

Defense Format

The student should perform the research and prepare the dissertation after the successful completion of the dissertation proposal. The “Guidelines for Research Methodology” document describes the items that should be included in the dissertation. The student should confer with the faculty adviser, who will provide overall guidance in the preparation of the dissertation and may suggest specific content and format details.

The student should arrange the time and place of the oral defense of the dissertation with the approval of the advisory committee. The oral defense will normally occur no sooner than one week after each advisory committee member has received a copy of the student's dissertation and a three hour block of time should be allocated for the oral defense of the dissertation.

The student will give a short presentation summarizing the dissertation results followed by a question and answer session with the advisory committee. The advisory committee will then determine the dissertation outcome. The specific outcome agreed to by the advisory committee requires the approval of the faculty adviser and no more than one negative vote from the other advisory committee members. The advisory committee will notify the Graduate College of the results of the oral defense of the dissertation on the Result of Final Examination form. A minimum of four copies of the dissertation in final form and six copies of the abstract must be submitted to the Graduate College no later than the published Graduate College Calendar deadline.

Specific Outcomes

Pass - The advisory committee accepts the dissertation and agrees that the student has passed the oral defense. Minor editorial modifications to the dissertation may still be required.

Conditional pass - The advisory committee accepts the dissertation and agrees that the student has passed the oral defense, subject to the corrections of deficiencies specified by the advisory committee.

Conditional failure - The advisory committee does not accept the dissertation and/or agrees that the student has not passed the oral defense. The student must revise the dissertation, complete any additional requirements as specified by the advisory committee and reschedule the oral defense.

Failure - The advisory committee does not accept the dissertation and/or agrees that the student has failed the oral defense. The student will not be granted the opportunity to revise the dissertation and/or reschedule the oral defense and will be dismissed from the program.