

INDIANA **TECH**

PhD in Global Leadership

Final Dissertation Defense *Script and Procedure*

PART I: INTRODUCTION

CHAIR READS: I would like to begin the final Dissertation defense of:

PhD Candidate _____.

I am Dr. _____, serving as the Dissertation Committee Chairperson.

I am joined today by Committee Members:

Dr. _____

Dr. _____

The Dissertation defense is a formal meeting during which the candidate presents and is questioned about the final Dissertation, and an agreement is reached that the student has successfully completed the manuscript in accordance with the academic standards of Indiana Institute of Technology and the PhD program in Global Leadership. The examination is chaired by the candidate's Committee Chairperson and conducted by the Dissertation Committee and at the discretion of the Associate Dean of Graduate & PhD Programs. The defense is an examination of the student's competence with respect to independent scholarship and investigation of a research inquiry. The student must be able to explain the rationale for choices that *He/She* made in designing of research, the future collection of data, and the writing of the Dissertation manuscript. In addition, the student should be able to discuss the research limitations and examine the academic relevance by placing them in the context of existing theory and research. The Dissertation under consideration today is titled:

_____.

It has been accepted for official defense.

I would like to introduce the author of today's Dissertation _____ . He /She is the Respondent for today's defense.

At this time, I would like to ask the Respondent if He/She would like to offer any short comment regarding any corrections of the text, variation, or special circumstances since our last committee communication, in regard to His/her Dissertation.

The defense will begin with the Respondent offering a formal oral presentation of His/her Dissertation for approximately 30 minutes.

THE CANDIDATE GIVES DISSERTATION PRESENTATION

PART II: COMMITTEE QUESTIONING OF CANDIDATE

CHAIR READS: At this time, the respondent will be asked to reply to committee questioning. The committee offers the sole examination for the Dissertation defense. The discussion should preferably not be concerned with minor errors in the presentation or text, etc., but instead with issues such as the Respondent's concept of the field studied, specific questions surrounding material found in the sections contained in the five chapters, the data collection techniques employed, possible limitations, the impact of the global components of research, potential future developments, etc.

QUESTIONING

PART III: EVALUATION BY THE CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAIR READS: The committee will now evaluate the student's defense. The evaluation for the defense of a Final Dissertation may be pass, conditional pass, or fail. Decisions on final acceptance are based on a majority vote of the candidate's Dissertation committee. Voting is conducted in a closed meeting of the committee.

COMMITTEE EXITS THE VIRTUAL MEETING

COMMITTEE JOINS THE DELIBERATION VIRTUAL MEETING

COMMITTEE REJOINS THE MAIN MEETING WITH CANDIDATE

Once a decision has been rendered, the committee and candidate resume the meeting. At that time, the Dissertation chair makes the official announcement to the candidate on behalf of the committee, and if favorable, addresses the candidate as “Dr. (full name) with the pronouncement of a successful defense. At that time, the Chairperson and committee may make further comments, as well as the successful candidate. It is the responsibility of the Chair to compile the final feedback in writing with a timeline for the candidate after the Dissertation defense is completed. In addition, the committee’s feedback should be reviewed with the Candidate and the written materials and timeline sent as a follow-up.

Upon rendering the decision and the completion of the Dissertation defense, the Chair then officially notifies (by email) the Associate Dean of Graduate & PhD Programs of the committee’s decision. The Associate Dean of Graduate & PhD Programs approves and forwards this information to update all records and office prepares candidate for the final steps to Dissertation. Once all steps have been completed, including a prepared final manuscript, the committee will provide signatures for the Dissertation cover page.