

DISSERTATION DEFENSE POLICY

The Dissertation Defense Policy below was adopted by department faculty on April 8, 2003 for all doctoral students entering the department beginning with the fall 2003 semester, and as an optional policy for students entering doctoral programs in the department prior to the fall 2003 semester.

The dissertation defense in the Department of Professional Psychology and Family Therapy is divided into two parts. The first part is a convention style presentation by the defending student to the community at large. The community at large is defined as any interested party, including family members, who wish to participate in this public dissemination of scholarly information. The public presentation will last no more than 30 minutes and will include a brief opportunity for the audience to ask questions. The dissertation committee members will not be involved in the question and answer portion of the public presentation. Immediately following the public presentation, the defending student will attend a closed dissertation defense with his/her dissertation committee. No individuals other than the defending student and the dissertation committee are allowed to attend the closed portion of the dissertation defense. The closed portion of the defense will last approximately one hour.