**Oral Dissertation Defense**

**Scoring Rubric**

Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Faculty member: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please place a checkmark within the appropriate box for each category.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Not Acceptable**  **(Novice)** | **Acceptable**  **(Intermediate)** | **Good**  **(Proficient)** | **Excellent**  **(Distinguished)** |
| **Delivery:** Communication, awareness of audience, eye contact | No awareness of audience; does not make eye contact; reads entire presentation | Limited awareness of audience; makes eye contact but reads much of presentation | Good vocal & visual communication; acceptable delivery of presentation | Excellent communication skills; good interaction with audience |
| **Content:**  Background | Minimal idea development | Basic idea development, lacks detail | Substantial idea development with adequate detail | Strong idea development with evidence of thought, reflection |
| Purpose and Hypothesis | Limited, vague presentation of rationale | Acceptable statements of purpose and hypothesis | Clear focus on both purpose and hypothesis | Excellent focus on both, relating purpose and hypothesis statements |
| Methods | Confusing, difficult to follow. | Clear method but lacking rationale | Clear, concise method with appropriate rationale | Clear, concise method with good, evidence-based support |
| Analysis | Inappropriate type of analysis | Analysis appropriate but lacks good understanding of choice | Appropriate analysis with good rationale for choice | Well-developed analytical choices and techniques with strong basis of support |
| Discussion,  Conclusions | Cannot communicate what results mean | Brief discussion of results and implications | Clearly understands implications of results | Strong evidence of analysis, insight and reflection |
| Organization of Presentation | Weak, disorganized | Adequate organization, somewhat unfocused | Clear, focused presentation that is logical | Clear and focused but also rich in style |
| Wording, grammar | Many errors | Few errors | Error-free | Good variation in format and error-free |

Successful completion of the final defense:

The student must achieve an average score of 2 (acceptable) out of 4 (distinguished) from every dissertation committee member.