

Evaluation criteria for doctoral dissertations and licentiate theses
Acceptable theses are assessed on a scale from 1 to 5.

	Pass (1)	Satisfactory (2)	Good (3)	Very Good (4)	Excellent (5)
The Student's Mastery of the Discipline	The student is familiar with the discipline's essential theoretical foundations but shows inadequate skills in applying its research tradition in his/her research.	The student commands the discipline's essential theoretical foundations and is able to apply the main issues of its research tradition in his/her research.	The student has digested the discipline's theoretical foundations and is familiar with its research tradition and able to justifiably apply it in his/her research	The student demonstrates a mastery of the discipline's theoretical foundations and has successfully applied its research tradition in his/her research.	The student demonstrates an excellent mastery of the discipline's theoretical foundations and a profound understanding of its research tradition as well as an ability to creditably and justifiably apply these in his/her research.
The Student's Mastery of His/Her Field of Expertise	The student demonstrates a limited mastery of the field's essential theories and concepts but their description and definition may be inadequate or they are used limitedly or inconsistently.	The student is familiar with the field's essential theories and concepts but shows concise skills in applying them.	The student demonstrates a good mastery of the field's essential theories and concepts and applies them correctly in his/her work.	The student demonstrates a broad mastery of the field's essential theories and concepts and applies them creditably in his/her work.	The student demonstrates a broad and profound mastery of the field's essential theories and concepts and applies them excellently and creatively in his/her work.
Research Problems and Questions	The research problems are rather unambitious and are only loosely tied to the theoretical framework. The research questions could be substantially better defined and formulated. The research frame is not well-defined and coherent.	The research problems are justifiable. The research questions are derived from the research problems, but could be better defined. The research frame is fairly logical.	The research problems are justifiable and connect with the theoretical framework. The research questions are clearly defined and formulated and the research frame is logical.	The research problems are well justified and the theoretical framework is logical. The research questions are very clearly defined and formulated.	The research problems are innovative and very justifiable and they connect logically with the theoretical framework. The research questions are creditably defined and formulated and the research frame shows creative thinking.
Material and Methods	The research methods are presented, but somewhat superficially. The selection and presentation of the material and the arguments for the chosen method have shortcomings.	The presentation and discussion of the research methods demonstrate a mastery of the field. The selection of the material or the arguments for the chosen method have minor shortcomings.	The presentation and discussion of the research methods demonstrate a good mastery of the field. Both the material and the methods are well selected, presented and substantiated.	The presentation and use of the research methods demonstrate a very good mastery of the field. Both the material and the methods are very well presented and substantiated.	The use and discussion of the research methods demonstrate in-depth proficiency in the field. Both the material and the methods are creditably selected, presented and substantiated.

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	Pass (1)	Satisfactory (2)	Good (3)	Very Good (4)	Excellent (5)
Analysis	The analysis demonstrates a mastery of the chosen method and is reliable but is not entirely systematic and has some shortcomings in accuracy.	The analysis demonstrates a mastery of the chosen method and is reliable but has some shortcomings in accuracy.	The analysis demonstrates a good mastery of the chosen method, being both accurate and reliable.	The analysis demonstrates a very good mastery of the chosen method, being systematic, accurate and reliable.	The analysis demonstrates an excellent mastery of the chosen method, being creative, systematic, accurate and reliable.
Findings and Conclusions	The findings are logically presented, but the implications are inadequately discussed. The research provides answers to the questions presented but the findings could be more closely connected to the theoretical framework. The dissertation contributes a limited amount of new knowledge.	The findings are logically presented and the implications are discussed. The research provides answers to the questions presented and most findings are connected to the theoretical framework. The dissertation contributes some new knowledge or a new perspective on the field.	The presentation and discussion of the findings are competent. The research provides good answers to the questions presented and the interpretation of the findings is connected to the theoretical framework. The dissertation contributes new knowledge or a new perspective on the field.	The presentation and discussion of the findings are competent and insightful. The research provides good answers to the questions presented and the interpretation of the findings is proficiently connected to the theoretical framework. The dissertation makes a substantial theoretical or empirical contribution to the field.	Both the presentation and discussion of the findings are competent and insightful. The research provides excellent answers to the questions presented and the interpretation of the findings is expertly connected to the theoretical framework. The dissertation makes a substantial theoretical and empirical contribution to the field.
Reporting	The reporting of the research has structural, linguistic or stylistic shortcomings, which impairs the overall coherence.	The research is clearly reported but its structure, style or linguistic form may have minor shortcomings.	The research is clearly and coherently reported. Both the linguistic form and style are flawless.	The research is very clearly and coherently reported. Both the linguistic form and style are very good.	The research is remarkably clearly and coherently reported. Both the linguistic form and style are excellent.
Public Defence of the Dissertation	The candidate presents and defends the dissertation adequately.	The candidate presents and defends the dissertation satisfactorily.	The candidate presents and defends the dissertation successfully.	The candidate presents and defends the dissertation very well.	The candidate presents and defends the dissertation excellently.

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