Thesis Defense Checklist
Scientific Knowledge, Theoretical and Methodological Knowledge, Professionalism, and Ethical Standards

Human Development and Family Studies Texas Tech University

Student's Name __________________________ Year in Program ________ Semester/Year __________

Project Title: ______________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

*A NO on any of these items will result in not meeting expected level of competency for the Thesis Defense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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 Project Scope
 Student has identified an area of study that has relevance to human development and family studies and in which an original contribution can be made* _____  _____

 Scope of student’s research study is appropriate for a thesis-level project* _____  _____

 Literature Review
 Student provides a concise, well organized, and integrated review of relevant literature in the Introduction section* _____  _____

 Student adequately evaluates existing literature _____  _____

 Student addresses strengths and limitations of existing literature _____  _____

 Student makes a clear argument for need to conduct research on proposed topic* _____  _____

 Purpose of Study
 The purpose of the study is clearly stated* _____  _____

 Research questions are appropriate and clearly articulated Hypotheses are _____  _____

 appropriate and clearly articulated (if applicable) _____  _____

 Supporting literature is provided for hypotheses _____  _____

 Student is able to clearly identify different types of variables (independent, dependent, mediators, moderators) (if applicable) _____  _____

 Research Design/Methods
 Research design is appropriate to address hypotheses* /research questions _____  _____

 Student demonstrates evidence that, when possible or relevant, s/he conducted a power analysis to estimate sample size _____  _____

 Number of participants is appropriate for study _____  _____

 Measures/Interview Questions included in study are appropriate for study (i.e., valid measures of target constructs) _____  _____

 Description of measures/Interview Questions used in study is provided (e.g., dimensional/factorial structure; relevant forms of reliability, validity studies) _____  _____

 Student recognizes limitations of proposed thesis research project _____  _____

Last Update: 9-21-16
### Data Collection
Data collection procedures are in accordance with TTU’s IRB guidelines*  
Data collection procedures are in accordance with *APA’s Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct*  

### Data Analysis
Student identifies, provides rationale, and adequately describes statistical procedures/analytical techniques chosen to analyze data*  
Student states and tests most important assumptions of statistical tests (if applicable)  

### Document
Student adheres to guidelines set forth by the *APA Publication Manual* (6th edition)  
Document is well organized, written in a clear, concise, and grammatically correct manner*  

### Communication of Findings
Student clearly communicates general findings of study  
Student clearly communicates significant and non-significant findings*  
Student develops tables and figures to summarize and communicate results  
Student places own research in context of existing research  
Student identifies limitations of study*  

### Professionalism
Student demonstrates mastery of relevant literature, research study, and is able to adequately answer questions in a thoughtful and scholarly manner  
Student conducted him/herself in a professional manner*  

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A minimum of 26 out of 30 (87%) categories need to be marked ‘Yes’ to have the thesis proposal approved. Items designated with a * must be marked YES in order to meet expected level of competency.

____ Yes, student meets or exceeds expected level of competency for the thesis proposal.

____ No, student does not meet expected level of competency for the proposal.

Comments:

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

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Student  
______  _______  Chair, Thesis Committee  
______  _______  

Thesis Committee Member  
______  _______  Thesis Committee Member  
______  _______