

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

**Human Development and Family
Sciences 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**

	Yes	No
Project Scope		
Student has identified an area of study that has relevance to human development and family sciences 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, they 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	_____	_____

	Yes	No
Data Collection		
Data collection procedures are in accordance with TTU's IRB guidelines*	_____	_____
Data collection procedures are in accordance with <i>APA's Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct</i> *	_____	_____
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 <i>APA Publication Manual</i> (7 th 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 themselves in a professional manner*	_____	_____

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:

Student

Date

Chair, Thesis Committee

Date

Thesis Committee Member

Date

Thesis Committee Member

Date