

## Dissertation Defense Checklist

Scientific Knowledge and Methods (Foundational Competency), Research/Evaluation (Functional Competency),  
Professionalism (Foundational Competency), and Ethical Legal Standards and Policy (Foundational Competency)

### Clinical Psychology Program Texas Tech University

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year in Program \_\_\_\_\_ Semester/Year \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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

	Yes	No
<b>Project Scope</b>		
Student has identified an area of study that has relevance to clinical psychology and in which an original contribution can be made*	_____	_____
Scope of student's research study is appropriate for a Psy 8000-level project*	_____	_____
Student level of independence in developing, carrying out, and overseeing all aspects of dissertation research project is appropriate*	_____	_____
<b>Literature Review</b>		
Student provides a concise, well organized, and integrated review of relevant literature in the Introduction section*	_____	_____
Student provides a more extensive review of research related to the project or some relevant part of the project in an Extended Literature Review*	_____	_____
Extended literature review is integrative, thorough, and well organized	_____	_____
Student adequately evaluates existing literature	_____	_____
Student addresses strengths and limitations of existing literature	_____	_____
Student has made a clear argument for need to conduct research on topic	_____	_____
<b>Purpose of Study</b>		
The purpose of the study is clearly stated*	_____	_____
Research questions are appropriate and clearly articulated*	_____	_____
Hypotheses are appropriate and clearly articulated*	_____	_____
Supporting literature is provided for hypotheses	_____	_____
Student is able to clearly identify different types of variables* (independent, dependent, mediators, moderators)	_____	_____
<b>Research Design/Methods</b>		
Research design is appropriate to address hypotheses*	_____	_____
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 included in study are appropriate for study (i.e., valid measures of target constructs)	_____	_____
Description of measures used in study is provided (e.g., dimensional/factorial structure; relevant forms of reliability, validity studies)	_____	_____

