



**DOCTORAL THESIS PROPOSAL DEFENSE PROCEDURE** *Approved by the Academic Study Council on February 16, 2021*

Prior to the Doctoral Thesis Proposal Defense, the Doctoral Candidate must fulfill the following prerequisites:

- Obtain approval for the Dissertation Proposal Topic and Mentor Appointment.
- Obtain approval from the Gestalt Dissertation Ethical Committee.

The Committee responsible for the Thesis Proposal Defense is composed of three members: the Mentor, Methodologist, and Independent Expert. All committee members are required to convene 15 minutes before the scheduled start of the defense.

The Committee President is to be elected from among the Methodologist and Independent Expert. The President of the Committee for the Doctoral Thesis Proposal Defense assumes the role of leading the proceedings, adhering to the following agenda:

1. Extend a warm welcome to the Candidate, introducing the candidate to the assembly.
2. Introduce the Committee Members, which include the Mentor, Methodologist, and Independent Expert.
3. Instruct the Candidate to deliver a presentation of the Thesis Proposal within a 20-minute timeframe.
4. Invite Committee Members to pose questions, with a preference for one question each, but not exceeding two questions per member. The sequence should begin with a Committee member who is neither the President nor the Mentor, followed by the President, and concluding with the Mentor (who may choose not to pose a question). In the event that questions and answers generate discussion, the President shall moderate, ensuring adherence to a one-hour timeframe.

5. Upon the conclusion of this phase, request the Doctoral Candidate to temporarily vacate the room.
6. Facilitate a Discussion among Committee Members pertaining to the Doctoral Thesis Proposal Defense.
7. Following the completion of the Discussion, invite the Candidate to rejoin the proceedings and announce the results of the Defense.
8. Allocate a brief period for the Mentor and Candidate to convey their thoughts.
9. Conclude the Doctoral Thesis Proposal Defense Session.