

Digital conduction of defence (trial lecture only on-line)

A template suggesting agenda and information to be given by the administrator.

This is based on the memo: "Spesifisering av retningslinjer for digital doktorgradsprøve ved IE fakultetet under koronavirusutbruddet", and it is assumed that at least the opponents and some from the public are connected via two-way communication.

Be particularly aware that the opponents, and anyone else that are not present physically, have to speak to be seen by others.

Committee meeting to conclude about the trial lecture

Since the assessment committee must deem the trial lecture as passed before the defence, a meeting should be held in addition to or in combination with the premeeting for testing the digital communication system.

Based on the uploaded online version of the trial lecture, the committee should discuss it and should also prepare for the text to be included in the "PhD Result" document (point 5. Assessment of the trial lecture).

At this meeting, the committee may also prepare for the text of the final assessment of the thesis that should be in the "PhD Result" document.

Defence

1. Introduction

Welcome [name candidate] and to everyone to the doctoral defence of [name candidate].

(If the platform used allows, you as administrator may mute all the audience, and only keep the principal supervisor (if remote) and the committee members as "presenters" (or similar), so that they are allowed to unmute. If you cannot control the muting:) Before proceeding, I will remind all audience that are following this trial lecture remotely, that you keep your microphones muted all the time. Others should only unmute when they are speaking.

In [month, name] handed in his/her thesis with the title: [title of thesis]

It was accepted worthy of defence by the assessment committee.

I will ask each of the members of the committee to present themselves with titles, names and affiliation.

- First, I give the word to the 1st opponent: (who present him/herself)
- Then, please the 2nd opponent: (who present him/herself)
- Then myself [title, name, department] at NTNU. In addition to being a member of the assessment committee, I am the administrator of the committee.

I will also introduce the supervisors of the candidate:

- The Principal Supervisor: [title, name, department] at NTNU
- Co-supervisors: Professor [title, name, department] at NTNU (if not from NTNU: provide affiliation)

(You may comment shortly about the number of people being present physically and online.)

2. Verifications

(If the candidate is not present at the university:)

I will ask the candidate to say your name and connect your camera.

(The candidate present him/herself)

Then I will ask the principle supervisor to verify that he/she is the announced candidate.

(The supervisor confirms.)

The candidate has already uploaded his/her trial lecture over a given topic, the thesis and the presentation of the thesis at internet. I ask the principle supervisor to testify that the candidate has him/herself given and made the presentations.

(The supervisor confirms.)

3. Evaluation of trial lecture

The assessment committee has assessed the trial lecture and found that it was (very) satisfactory.

4. About the program and questions from the audience

Since the candidate already has presented his/her thesis work on internet, this meeting include the discussion of the thesis and we will open for questions from the audience. However, I need to know who will ask questions by the end of the discussion by the 1st opponent (or before any other specified time). You should use the Instant message to notice me that you have a question to ask later by word or you may ask the question directly in the message. (Optional, if available by the applied platform:) You may also notify that you have a question by clicking “raise hand”.

(It is recommended to present on PowerPoint the details about how the public should notice their questions and by when.)

5. Discussion of the thesis

Now there will be discussion of the thesis. We start with the 1st opponent [title and name].

(Questions and answers)

Thank you, then there will be questions from the 2nd opponent [title and name].

(Questions and answers)

Thanks to all of you for the discussion.

6. Questions from audience

(If someone has requested to ask questions:)

It is now time for questions from the audience for those who have notified me as requested. I will remind each one to mute the microphone when speaking (or you as administrator may mute the phone for those that are going to speak) and please connect also with your camera that we can see you. For those who have sent a question by IM, I will read the question loudly.

(Then give the word to them in order /pick up the IM questions.

(If no questions from the public:)

No one from the audience has noticed me about questions to the candidate.

7. Conclusion

This ends the doctoral defence.

(Alternative 1, if the committee will meet immediately:)

The assessment committee will have a separate meeting to conclude. We will be back here within 10 minutes to announce the result.

(After the conclusion:)

The committee has concluded, and can congratulate the [name] with the phd degree.

Thank you, first of all to [name of candidate] and to the assessment committee, but also to all others who have participated.

(Alternative 2, if the committee will not meet immediately)

The assessment committee will have a separate meeting to conclude. The candidate will be informed when the committee has concluded.

Thank you, first of all to [name of candidate] and to the assessment committee, but also to all others who have participated.