

Dissertation Defense Report

Due: May 7, 2012

50 points

An important part of completing a thesis or dissertation is the defense. The defense is an oral presentation, made to your committee (and other guests), to test your ability not only to present your research, but how professional you look.

When you attend the dissertation defense, you'll need to look for the following things, write about what you saw, and critique how well you think the person did. Your report should be **one page, single-spaced**. You may attend a defense in any discipline.

- 1. Did the presenter understand their place within their literature review? Were they able to clearly convey how they arrived at their research question from the literature?
- 2. How sound were their research methods? Did the methods make sense given the literature review?
- 3. Did their research questions make sense?
- 4. Did the presenter answer their research questions? Did they find what they thought they would find?
- 5. How well did they tie their results and conclusion back to their research questions?
- 6. How professional was their presentation? Did it make sense? How easy/hard was it to follow? How did their visual aids look? Were they effective?
- 7. Was the presenter able to answer questions about their study?

Remember, this is a critique, address the questions, but don't just answer yes or no. Give me your opinion!

Places to look for Schedules of Defenses

- 1. Today@Uidaho Calendar of Events, http://www.today.uidaho.edu/
- 2. College of Graduate Studies
- 3. Your Department (especially good for masters defenses)
- 4. Your mentor (they might be on someone's committee)