



Series: Academic / Courses, Curriculum, Exams (A2)
Number: A 2-28
Effective Date: 2022-09-01
Next Review Date: 2027-09-01

Policy Title: Thesis Examining Committee (Master’s)

Parent Policy	Thesis Administration (Master’s)
Policy Administrator	Associate Provost, Research & Graduate Studies
Approving Body	Senate
Approval History	2022-10-11; Senate Motion #2022/23 – 008

Purpose:

The objective of this policy is to clarify the composition, qualifications, roles, and responsibilities of the thesis examining committee.

Scope of this Policy:

Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) students from both the School of Graduate Studies (TWU) and the Graduate School of Theological Studies (ACTS).

Policy Statement:

Thesis-track students who have completed their written thesis to the satisfaction of their Supervisory Committee will progress to a defence (oral examination) of their thesis. The Examination Committee is responsible to conduct an oral examination of the student, evaluate and grade both the thesis and defence, and collaboratively determine the student’s final grade.

Examination Committee

A Thesis Examination Committee consists minimally of three or more scholars who adjudicate both the oral defence and the written thesis. The Committee consists of the Supervisory Committee plus a Third Reader. (See Thesis Supervisory Committee Policy).

A Third Reader is an arm’s-length member of the Examination Committee, selected because of their expertise in the research discipline. This person:

- Is from outside the student’s department or program but may be from within TWU.
- Must have no conflict of interest with either the student or supervisor.
- Must hold a doctorate or terminal degree in the field of research.
- Is normally a tenured or tenure-track faculty member.
- Is selected by the Supervisory Committee, approved by the Office of Graduate Studies, and arranged by the Program.
- Has no thesis-related contact with the student prior to the defence.

Definitions: None

Procedures: None

Child Policies: None

Other Related Policies: Thesis Exam Chair; Thesis Supervisory Committee (Master's)