

**Department of Sociology
University of Oklahoma**

Authorization to Proceed with Dissertation Defense

The PhD dissertation represents the final and most important component in the academic experiences that culminate in the awarding of the doctoral degree.

The Department of Sociology offers a dissertation that:

- 1) Is a work of original scholarly research demonstrating an understanding of the subject area and making a contribution to existing knowledge.
- 2) Demonstrates the candidate's mastery of sociological research methods and tools while using acceptable professional standards and ethics.
- 3) Tests a student's ability to address a significant intellectual problem and arrive at a logical conclusion.

The doctoral dissertation establishes that the student is accomplished in the field and can conduct meaningful sociological research independently.

This authorization form should be submitted to the graduate liaison no later than 14 days prior to the doctoral dissertation oral defense date. Please note, however, that the committee will need at least *two weeks* to read the dissertation. This means that you will need to give your committee a complete draft of your dissertation 30 days prior to your intended defense date.

I have read _____'s dissertation.

Below I indicate whether or not I consider it ready for a defense on _____ (date).

Ready: _____ Not ready: _____
_____ (chair)

Ready: _____ Not ready: _____

Ready: _____ Not ready: _____

Ready: _____ Not ready: _____

Ready: _____ Not ready: _____
