

Dissertation Defense Evaluation Rubric
Graduate Student Learning Outcome (GSLO) Assessment
Indiana University PhD Programs at IUPUI

Candidate Name:

Title of Dissertation:

Degree:

GSLO	Expectation	Does not meet expectations (unacceptable)	Meets expectations (acceptable)	Exceeds expectations (outstanding)
Knowledge and skills				
Literature review	Demonstrates comprehensive knowledge of current research in field			
Hypothesis/objectives	Generates viable research question and a testable hypothesis			
Research methods	Applies appropriate research methods to address hypothesis			
Communication				
Writing	Dissertation is clearly written and communicates high level material well with the reader			
Oral explanations	Oral explanations are clear and to the point			
Format of dissertation	Dissertation requires no or minimal changes to be acceptable to the institution			
Critical thinking				
Analysis of data	Analyses relate to conceptual framework			
Interpretation of results	Interpretation justified, not over or under-drawn			
Conclusions	Justified, based on appropriate statistics			
Ethical research				
Required classes complete	B or better earned in each			
Appropriate certifications	Biosafety, IRB, etc documented			
Evidence of original work	Literature search supports that research is original			
Appropriate citations	No evidence of plagiarism			

Principles of Graduate and Professional Learning

"Graduate students earning the PhD from Indiana University in X on the IUPUI campus will demonstrate the following abilities related to the research focus of the degree:

***Demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to identify and conduct original research in X**

Method of acquisition: Didactic course work, journal clubs, attendance at research seminars, direct mentoring by faculty, studying grant proposals

Assessment of learning: Grades in course work, ability to pass cumulative preliminary examinations in the field, ability to pass the oral and written qualifying examination, direct laboratory assessment by the research mentor, direct assessment of progress by the research committee for the dissertation

***Communicate effectively high level information in X**

Method of acquisition: Attendance required at seminars by faculty and peers, presentation at informal laboratory meetings and at formal seminars, mentored writing of grant proposals and manuscripts

Assessment of learning: Successful completion of the oral and written portions of the qualifying examinations, grades on formal seminar presentations based on outcomes rubrics, publication of manuscripts, awarding of grants

***Think critically and creatively to solve problems in X**

Method of acquisition: Attendance required at seminars by faculty and peers, presentation at informal laboratory meetings and at formal seminars, writing pre-proposal for dissertation, writing dissertation proposal

Assessment of learning: Grades on formal seminar presentations based on outcomes rubrics, direct assessment by faculty on pre-proposal and dissertation proposal, publication of research manuscripts, success in getting grant proposals funded.

***Conduct research in an ethical and responsible manner**

Method of acquisition: Required classes in research ethics, modeling of appropriate behavior in seminars by faculty and peers, direct mentoring by research director, mentoring by the dissertation research committee

Assessment of learning: Grades in ethics classes based on outcomes rubrics, direct observation of data handling by research mentor, direct oversight by dissertation research committee on issues of research compliance and ethics