

## Policy 9.27: Dissertation

The final defense of the dissertation will normally be open to the public. The dissertation committee may also elect to privately question the candidate following the public presentation. The program's graduate committee will establish the procedures for the defense of the dissertation. The dissertation must be approved by at least three (3) members of the dissertation committee. The dissertation defense must occur by the last day of classes of the semester in order for the student's successful completion of the degree to be awarded in that semester. This requirement also governs the student's ability to participate in the graduation ceremony in that term: in order to participate in the graduation ceremony, the student's dissertation defense must be held by the final day of classes in that semester.

All subparagraphs in paragraph 7.80 Thesis (with the exception of 7.82, 7.84, and 7.820) in this policy manual also apply to the dissertation.