Rubric for Evaluating PhD Dissertation Defense

Candidate's Name:		Date of Defense:	
Thesis Title:			

(To be completed by each committee member. Please check boxes for all evaluation criteria that you feel are appropriate within each attribute category)

Attribute	Does Not Meet Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations
Overall quality presentation ☐ Attribute not applicable	☐ Poorly organized ☐ Poor presentation ☐ Poor communication skills ☐ Slides and handouts difficult to read	☐ Clearly organized ☐ Clear presentation ☐ Good communication skills ☐ Slides and handouts clear	☐ Well organized ☐ Professional presentation ☐ Excellent communication skills ☐ Slides and handouts outstanding
Overall breadth of knowledge ☐ Attribute not applicable	☐ Presentation unacceptable ☐ Presentation reveals critical weaknesses in depth of knowledge in subject matter ☐ Presentation does not reflect well developed critical thinking skills ☐ Presentation is narrow in scope	☐ Presentation acceptable ☐ Presentation reveals some depth of knowledge in subject matter ☐ Presentation reveals above average critical thinking skills ☐ Presentation reveals the ability to draw from knowledge in several disciplines	☐ Presentation superior ☐ Presentation reveals exceptional depth of subject knowledge ☐ Presentation reveals well developed critical thinking skills ☐ Presentation reveals the ability to interconnect and extend knowledge from multiple disciplines
Quality of response to questions ☐ Attribute not applicable	☐ Responses are incomplete ☐ Arguments are poorly presented ☐ Respondent exhibits lack of knowledge in subject area ☐ Responses do not meet level expected of a Ph.D. graduate	☐ Responses are complete ☐ Arguments are well organized ☐ Respondent exhibits adequate knowledge in subject area ☐ Responses meet level expected of a Ph.D. graduate	☐ Responses are eloquent ☐ Arguments are skillfully presented ☐ Respondent exhibits superior knowledge in subject area ☐ Responses exceed level expected of a Ph.D. graduate

Attribute	Does Not Meet Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations
Use of communication aids ☐ Attribute not applicable	☐ Communication aids are poorly prepared ☐ Too much information included ☐ Listeners are confused ☐ Communication aids are used inappropriately	☐ Communication aids contribute to the quality of the presentation ☐ Appropriate information is included ☐ Listeners can easily follow the presentation ☐ Some material is not supported by communication aids	☐ Communication aids enhance the presentation ☐ Details are minimized so major points stand out ☐ Information is organized to maximize audience understanding ☐ Reliance on communication aids is minimal

Confidential Comments:

Name : _____   Signature: _____   Date: _____