

### Forming the Research Committee

To initiate research for the dissertation, the student chooses a professor who will agree to direct the dissertation. The department shall then recommend to the dean for approval a research committee composed of:

1. The chosen director (who will also normally serve as chairperson of the committee)
2. A representative of each minor. However, the minor member can be waived if approved by the minor department and the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies. If the minor representative is waived, another member outside of the student's major must still be added. They cannot be from the major field of study.
3. Three of the four committee members must be from the School of Education with two from the program area. Two of the four must be associate or full professors. The dissertation chair must be an endorsed member of the University Graduate School faculty.

The committee should be selected from the members of the graduate faculty who are best qualified to assist the student in conducting the research for the dissertation. The committee has the responsibility of supervising the research, reading the dissertation, and conducting the final examination.

- All members of a research committee must be members of the graduate faculty. At least half of the members of the committee must be endorsed to direct doctoral dissertations; others may be regular members.
- All chairpersons of research committees and directors of research must be endorsed members of the graduate faculty. The endorsement is reserved for tenure-track faculty with a regular appointment at Indiana University and is granted separately from graduate faculty status. If, however, special expertise in an area is held by a member of the graduate faculty who does not have the endorsement, the departmental chairperson may request that the dean approve such an individual as research committee chairperson or director of the dissertation research.
- In the event that the dissertation research does not involve the area(s) of the minor(s) whether outside or inside the department, the major department may request, with the consent of the minor-field representative(s), the substitution of a representative or of representatives from some other field(s) more appropriate to the topic of the dissertation.

The procedure for selecting research committee members varies considerably from student to student. Ideally, the research question that becomes the focus of the dissertation study stems naturally from research experiences, coursework, or graduate assistantship assignments that the student has had during their program. Often the advisory committee chair is the student's mentor and becomes the research committee chair. In such a case, the student and chair typically have had discussions about tentative dissertation topics prior to admission to candidacy and prior to the selection of other research committee members.

It is not required that the advisory committee chair be asked to chair the research committee, nor that the advisory committee chair agree to chair the research committee, if asked. Ultimately, the choice of a research chair involves a combination of personal compatibility and compatibility of the research

Formatted: Header, Indent: Before: -0.08"

Formatted: Header, Centered

Formatted Table

Formatted: Header

Deleted: Forming a Research Committee¶

After admission to candidacy, the student must assemble a research committee. The doctoral research committee has the responsibility to guide the student through the dissertation process and to conduct the final oral defense.¶ Research committees must have at least four members who are listed on the Graduate Faculty List maintained by the University Graduate School. Two must be associate or full professors in the student's major area of study. The dissertation chair must be an endorsed member of the University Graduate School faculty. The fourth member should be the minor member, however the minor member can be waived if approved by the minor department and the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies. If the minor representative is waived another member outside of the student's major must still be added. They cannot be from the major field of study. One member may be from the faculty of a campus of Indiana University outside the core campus. At least two of the committee members must be tenure-line faculty members. The committee chair must be an endorsed member of the Graduate Faculty.

Deleted: ¶

It is possible to include a committee member who is not an Indiana University faculty member, such as a faculty member at another university, on a doctoral committee.

Deleted: The full committee must still be composed from Indiana University faculty.

Deleted: The outside Indiana University member is in addition to the full committee and is not counted as one of the four required members. To receive approval for such an addition, two conditions must be met:¶ the outside Indiana University member must have special expertise not available among University Graduate School faculty, either in the substantive area of the study or in the research methodology, and¶ the outside Indiana University member must supply evidence of published research.¶

Deleted: in the student's major area of study

Formatted: List Paragraph, Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5"

Deleted: a

Deleted: chair and research committee

Formatted: Header, Indent: Before: -0.08"

Formatted: Header, Centered

Formatted: Header, Right, After: -0.08"

Formatted Table

Formatted: Footer

interests of the student and the chair. The student and the committee chair typically confer regarding the selection of other research committee members.

An emeritus faculty member may remain on program committees and research committees formed prior to retirement and continue to serve as member, chair, co-chair, or director. An emeritus faculty member may not be appointed as chair of either an advisory committee or a research committee. However, an emeritus faculty member who continues to be actively engaged in research and in their professional field may serve as a member of a program committee, or serve as director, co-chair, or member of a research committee, with the recommendation of the chair of the committee and approval of the department chair. Appeals to this policy based upon extraordinary circumstances should be directed to the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies.

<https://bulletins.iu.edu/iu/educ-grad/2022-2023/policies/phd-policies.shtml>

Formatted: Header, Indent: Before: -0.08"

Formatted: Header, Centered

Formatted Table

Formatted: Header

Formatted: Header, Indent: Before: -0.08"

Formatted: Header, Centered

Formatted: Header, Right, After: -0.08"

Formatted Table

Formatted: Footer