

## Policies & Procedures

### Ed.D. Policies

#### Getting Started in Your Doctoral Program

During the first semester each doctoral student will be advised by the program head or Department Chair, or will be assigned a temporary faculty advisor. Before the end of the third semester in the program, each student must submit an electronic Plan of Studies (e-POS).

#### **Advisory and Research Committee**

The advisory and research committee consists of at least three faculty members. At least two must be from the major area of study and one from the minor area. The Committee Chair, who becomes the student's primary advisor, must be a regular-graduate faculty member in the major area of specialization. If a student has a minor, a faculty member representing the minor must be part of the Advisory Committee. For interdisciplinary minors, the minor representative must be from outside the major. At least two of the faculty members on each doctoral advisory committee must be members of the Graduate Faculty; one may be an adjunct, emeriti, or part-time faculty member.

After admission to candidacy, the Student's Committee has the responsibility to guide the student through the dissertation process and to conduct the final oral defense. At this stage, the committee typically remains intact, but students may reconstitute their committee if they wish, to ensure the committee has the expertise necessary to guide the dissertation. Ultimately, the choice of a Committee Chair involves a combination of personal compatibility and compatibility of the research interests of the student and the Chair. The student and the Committee Chair typically confer regarding the selection of other committee members. For the post-candidacy stage, it is possible to include a committee member who is not an Indiana University faculty member, such as a faculty member at another university. The outside Indiana University member is in addition to the three required IU committee 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 Indiana University University Graduate School faculty, either in the substantive area of the study or in the research methodology.

— the outside Indiana University member must supply evidence of published research.

**This section will be removed from the Bulletin as the Research Committee is being combined with the Advisory Committee. This is now outlined earlier in the Bulletin so this section is no longer needed.**

### ~~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 three 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 third member 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.~~

~~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. The full committee must still be composed from Indiana University faculty. The outside Indiana University member is in addition to the full committee and is not counted as one of the three 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.~~

~~The procedure for selecting a research committee chair and 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 interests of the student and the chair. The student and the committee chair typically confer regarding the selection of other research committee members.~~