

*Common Questions, Preliminary Defense*

In your defense, you will be showcasing the evidence that you used within the dissertation. To help you prepare for this, common questions you may be asked include:

1. Ensure you can explain your research in one to two sentences (to be able to do this shows your level of clarity on the project).
2. Why did you choose the topic you did? What inspired this decision?
3. What gaps in research are you addressing and why do you think this is of value?
4. What are the most original or distinctive parts of your dissertation?
5. How do you think your research will be of benefit to those who read it? Or to your field?
6. Why did you choose the method you did for your study?
7. What was the biggest challenge in completing this work?
8. How did you relate your study to existing theories? Please specify which theories by name along with a general explanation of what that theory poses.
9. How will you validate your data collection instruments? How will you prove they were reliable and valid?
10. How did you select your population and sample? Why?
11. What ethical considerations did you take into account to ensure you are protecting your participants, if any?
12. How will you test your hypotheses, if any?