



Trial lecture and Public defence - PhD in Science of Professions

Trial lecture: The objective of the trial lecture is to document the PhD candidate's ability to impart knowledge gained through his/her research. The theme of the prescribed topic given by the committee should not be selected from the central research questions covered by the doctoral candidate's degree work. The trial lecture should be structured so as to be accessible to an audience with knowledge of the subject that can be expected among advanced students (with at least one year of study in the academic field). The lecture is given on the day of the public defence. Its duration 45 minutes including questions from the committee and others.

Public defence:

The norm is that the duration of the public defence is up to three hours. The candidate, presenting the thesis for about 30 minutes, initiates the defence. Subsequently, the first and second opponents – in that order – should spend approximately 60 minutes each, for their examination of the candidate. The public defence shall be structured as an academic discussion between the opponents and the doctoral candidate concerning the research questions raised, the methodological, empirical and theoretical sources, documentation and form of presentation.

The day of the Public defence

It is customary that the faculty, represented by the dean or leader of the committee, hosts a dinner for the committee the day before the defence.

Time table for the day of Trial lecture and Public defence:

- 09.00: The committee and leader of the defence meet.
- 10.00–11.00: Trial lecture
- 11.00–12.00: Lunch
- 12.00–15.15: Public defence including a break between first and second opponent
- 15.15: The committee retreats and evaluates the thesis in light of the trial lecture and the defence, and submits its written declaration and conclusion.
- Reception with foods and drinks financed by FLU or FSH

Doctoral dinner:

It is customary that the candidate hosts a post public defence dinner, inviting the Dean, committee, supervisors, colleagues, family and friends.