THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PH.D. PROGRAM IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

THESIS REQUIREMENTS

The thesis is the primary document by which a Ph.D. candidate demonstrates mastery of the field and original contribution to knowledge. It must be a substantial, original work of research, written in a clear, concise, and logical manner. The thesis should be well-organized, with a clear introduction, a well-developed body, and a strong conclusion. It should be free of errors in grammar, punctuation, and formatting. The thesis must be defended in a public oral examination before a committee of faculty members. The committee will evaluate the thesis on the basis of its originality, contribution, and the candidate's ability to defend the work.

The thesis must be written in English and must be a minimum of 100 pages in length, including the introduction, literature review, methodology, results, and conclusion. The thesis must be submitted in both hard copy and electronic format. The hard copy must be bound in a professional manner. The electronic format must be in PDF and must be submitted to the appropriate departmental office.

The thesis must be defended in a public oral examination before a committee of faculty members. The committee will evaluate the thesis on the basis of its originality, contribution, and the candidate's ability to defend the work. The defense will typically last 30-45 minutes. The candidate will be asked to present a summary of the thesis and to answer questions from the committee. The committee will then vote on whether to recommend the thesis for the Ph.D. degree. If the committee recommends the thesis, the candidate will receive the Ph.D. degree. If the committee does not recommend the thesis, the candidate may be asked to revise the thesis and defend it again.

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