PhD Dissertation Defense Rubric

Student Name:_____   Date: _____

Each section should receive a score of 1, 2, or 3 (to be completed with committee consensus)
3= exceeds expectations, 2= meets expectations, 1= does not meet expectations

Section	Score
Chooses a research question of scientific interest/importance	
Understands public health importance of chosen topic	
Demonstrates an understanding of the biologic mechanism	
Demonstrates in-depth expertise in subject area of dissertation	
Performs a synthesis of the literature	
Specific Aims	
Methods 1 • Apply methods and principles of sound epidemiologic practice in design and conduct of dissertation research (including those related to data collection, processing, management, documentation, and security, as appropriate for a given dissertation) (**Learning Outcome 6**)	
Methods 2 • Apply methods and principles of sound and ethical practice in design and conduct of dissertation research (**Learning Outcome 6**)	
Methods 3 • Apply appropriate statistical methods to analyze data and answer research questions	
Results • Descriptions of study population, descriptive data main results, supporting analyses	
Discussion • Clearly summarizes results • Relates with existing studies • Discusses limitations and strengths • Implications and next steps	
Quality of writing • Dissertation free of grammatical and spelling errors • Dissertation written clearly and succinctly	
Quality of oral presentation • Slides • Oral presentation	
Overall Assessment	

Comments:

Dissertation Chair: _____   Dissertation Chair: _____
               Print Name   Signature