

Guidelines for the preparation of a presentation of a dissertation topic proposal defense

The dissertation topic proposal defense before the Board for the Dissertation Topic Proposal Defense (hereinafter: the Board) is carried out through a PP presentation on the prescribed form of the Faculty of Economics and Business of the University of Rijeka in Croatian or English, depending on the language in which the dissertation topic proposal was submitted (the prescribed form is available in the Student Registry for Postgraduate Studies).

The purpose of the dissertation proposal presentation is to confirm the feasibility of the research plan, especially the theoretical basis of the research questions and the proposed research methodology. The main purpose of the presentation is to present charts/tables and as a reminder for the coverage of all relevant determinants of the proposed research.

The PP presentation contains the following general information about the candidate and the topic on the first page: the title of the topic in Croatian or English, the first name and surname of the doctoral candidate, the first name and surname of the proposed supervisor (and co-supervisor), the name of the study, the study provider, the place and date of defense. Among the information listed above, the title of the proposed dissertation topic should be highlighted. The following basic elements of the dissertation topic explanation from the proposal form are presented in the dissertation topic proposal: Introduction and overview of previous research, research objective(s) and hypothesis(es), research methodology and plan, expected results, and scientific contribution. In the case of a Scandinavian-type dissertation, the above-mentioned elements may appear as components of each planned paper, but it is necessary to link these papers with a common introduction and conclude with a presentation of the expected overall scientific contribution.

The number of slides is not limited and there is no minimum number of slides, but the applicant must prepare the presentation in advance so that it lasts approximately 30 minutes.

The usual technical recommendations for preparing PP presentations should also be followed. It is recommended to use standard fonts (e.g. Times New Roman, Arial, or Verdana), avoid fonts that are too small (e.g. below 24), capital letters, italic fonts, decorative images, many different colours, and excessive animations, and present the slides line by line as they would be delivered orally so that the Board can focus on the topic at hand. It is advisable to use as little text as possible and to favour bullet points over complete sentences. It is recommended to replace the text with a table/chart/image, where possible, and not to add comments, but to highlight the most important elements in tables, pictures, and charts orally (and in colour/bold print).

The candidate is expected to have full command of the subject matter presented so that they can present the proposed doctoral dissertation orally, either with or without the use of a PP presentation, which should primarily be used to present the main elements, especially charts/tables, and as a reminder to cover all relevant areas. A candidate who reads out longer parts of the text directly from the PP presentation (or from the dissertation proposal itself) will be considered insufficiently prepared.

Guidelines for the preparation of a dissertation defense presentation

The dissertation defense before the Dissertation Defense Board (hereinafter: the Board) is conducted based on a PP presentation on the prescribed form of the Faculty of Economics and Business of the University of Rijeka in Croatian or English, depending on the language in which the dissertation has been written (the prescribed form is available in the Student Registry for Postgraduate Studies).

The PP presentation contains the following general information about the candidate and the dissertation on the first page: title of the doctoral dissertation in Croatian or English, first name and last name of the doctoral candidate, first name and surname of the supervisor (and co-supervisor), name of the study, the study provider, place and date of the defense. The dissertation title should be highlighted. The remainder of the dissertation presentation includes an introduction of the topic/problem, the objective/objectives, and hypothesis (with sub-hypotheses)/hypotheses, a theoretical framework, and an overview of previous research and the research methodology with particular emphasis on the research results and conclusions and the scientific contribution made. When writing a dissertation according to the Scandinavian model, the above-mentioned elements may appear as components of each (published) paper, but it is necessary to link these papers with a common introduction and conclude with a presentation of the overall scientific contribution.

The number of slides is not limited and there is no minimum number of slides, but the applicant must prepare the presentation in advance so that it lasts no longer than 60 minutes and no shorter than 30 minutes.

The usual technical recommendations for preparing PP presentations should also be followed. It is recommended to use standard fonts (e.g. Times New Roman, Arial, or Verdana), avoid fonts that are too small (e.g. below 24), capital letters, italic fonts, decorative images, many different colours, and excessive animations, and present the slides line by line as they would be delivered orally so that the Board can focus on the topic at hand. It is advisable to use as little text as possible and to favour bullet points over complete sentences. It is recommended to replace the text with a table/chart/image, where possible, and not to add comments, but to highlight the most important elements in tables and charts orally (and in colour/bold print).

The candidate is expected to have full command of the subject matter presented so that they can present it orally, either with or without the use of a PP presentation, which should primarily be used to present quantitative results (tables, charts) and as a reminder to cover all relevant areas. A candidate who reads out longer parts of the text directly from the PP presentation (or only from the PP presentation, either with or without using the dissertation) will be considered insufficiently prepared.