
Announcing Your Thesis or Dissertation Defense

The policy of the UNLV Graduate College is to announce all thesis and dissertation defenses. Thesis and dissertation defenses are open to the campus at large as well as the general public. Defense announcements should be publicized a minimum of **two weeks** prior to your defense date.

What parts of your defense are open to the public?

Only your defense presentation is open to the public. After you have presented your thesis or dissertation, the audience will be thanked and asked to leave. After the audience has left, you and your committee will discuss your defense and your final document. Your committee will tell you if you have passed or failed your defense and if you are required to submit any additional revisions.

How to Announce Your Thesis or Dissertation Defense

Email the Graduate College at gradrebel@unlv.edu.

1. Cc: your committee and department
2. In the subject line, write:
 - a. Your Name, NSHE ID #, and Defense Announcement
3. In the body of your email, include the following information:
 - a. Name Type of Degree
 - b. Thesis or Dissertation Title
 - c. Department
 - d. Name of Committee Chair
 - e. Names of Committee Members
 - f. Defense Title
 - g. Defense Location and Virtual link (if applicable)
 - h. Defense Date
 - i. Defense Presentation Timeframe

Here is an example:

Subject: Mary Smith, 2003456789, Defense Announcement

*Mary Smith, Ph.D. Candidate
Department of Sociology*

How Dissertations Are Announced Around the World

Advisory Committee Members:

John Doe, Ph.D., Advisory Committee Chair

Jane Doe, Ph.D., Advisory Committee Member

Jane Smith, Ph.D., Advisory Committee Member

John Wilson, Ph.D., Advisory Committee Member

Richard Martin, Ph.D., Graduate College Representative

CHB-A 201

March 31, 2026

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Additional Note: In reference to the Advisory Committee Team "Dr." title is only used for individuals who have a Doctor of Dental Surgery, Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Osteopathy, or Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree. Otherwise, use "Ph.D." or their respective title at the end of their name.

After you send your defense announcement to the Graduate College, it will be added to both the Graduate College and University Events Calendars. After it has been entered, you will receive an email confirmation. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this process, please contact the Thesis and Dissertation Office at (702) 895-2747 or GradRebel@unlv.edu. If you need to cancel or reschedule your defense, please contact our office as soon as possible to ensure that you meet all your deadlines.