

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
West Virginia University

**Composition and Number of Members for Thesis and/or Dissertation  
Committees**

Doctoral dissertation committees consist of no fewer than four members. At least one member of the committee must be from a department/program other than the one in which the student is seeking a degree.

[http://catalog.wvu.edu/graduate/advisingcoursesdegrees/degree\\_regulations/#committeestext](http://catalog.wvu.edu/graduate/advisingcoursesdegrees/degree_regulations/#committeestext)

*CEHS departments may elect to require no fewer than 5 members for dissertation committees.*

The majority of the members of any graduate thesis or dissertation committee must be regular members of the graduate faculty, including the chair of the committee. Co-chairs of committees are allowed, but at least one of the co-chairs must be a regular member of the graduate faculty. No more than one committee member may be a nonmember of the graduate faculty.

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NOTE: Here, “majority of the members” means 3 persons.

The student cannot be considered as having satisfactorily passed their defense if there is more than one unfavorable vote among members of the committee. Results of each defense must be reported to the college or school dean or designee within twenty-four hours. If the defense is not passed, a repeat of the defense may not be scheduled without approval by the college or school dean or designee.

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