

Psychological Sciences Department Policy on Scheduling Thesis, Second Year Project, and Dissertation Proposals and Defenses during Summer

Thesis, Second Year Projects, and Dissertation proposals and defenses shall not be scheduled during the summer months, defined as the period beginning 1 week after commencement and ending 1 week before the start of fall semester classes, except in extraordinary circumstances.

If there are extraordinary circumstances that recommend a summer proposal or defense, the student may request a waiver of this policy from the Department chairperson. This request must include a description of the unavoidable and extenuating circumstances that make a summer proposal or defense necessary. This request should be made to the chairperson as soon as the student anticipates the need for a summer proposal or defense. The chairperson will poll the thesis/dissertation committee and grant a waiver only if each member of the committee agrees to the summer proposal or defense.

In the rare circumstances that a summer defense is approved by the committee, the student must still follow the Department's Intent to Defend process and form (this form is not required for proposals). This includes a signature from the research mentor indicating that he/she has reviewed and approved a high quality and complete draft at least 6 weeks before the earliest possible defense date. Approval for a summer defense does not imply permission to schedule the actual defense date before the mentor has approved a high quality and complete draft.