# **APPENDIX 1**

## **WRITTEN JUSTIFICATION FOR PROPOSING THE GRADE OF PASS WITH DISTINCTION**

**Instructions:** Below are the Faculty of Theology assessment criteria for doctoral theses, together with descriptions. If the grade pass with distinction is proposed, the grading committee will review the criteria and their descriptions at a meeting and, based on the discussion, the first Faculty representative will write a short justification explaining **why the thesis is considered exceptionally praiseworthy and ambitious in the light of each criterion**. In other words, it is not enough for the doctoral thesis to meet the criteria, but its quality must be exceptionally high in terms of all the criteria.

**Criterion 1: Choice of topic, research problem, scope of the research and research problems:** The information value of the topic, the appropriateness of the research problem and the scope of the research. The Faculty recommends that a monograph be no more than about 250 pages long, excluding appendices.

**Justification:**

**Criterion 2: Acknowledgement of previous research:** Setting the research appropriately in the framework of existing research.

**Justification:**

**Criterion 3: Clarity of the concepts used and the theoretical mastery of the topic.**

**Justification:**

**Criterion 4: Research methods used:** The justifiability of the chosen approach/approaches and research methods for the research problem. Demonstration of mastery of the chosen methods.

**Justification:**

**Criterion 5: Materials:** Quality, relevance and quantitative adequacy from the point of view of the topic and the research problem.

**Justification:**

**Criterion 6: Presentation of the results and conclusions:** Consistency of the analysis and consideration of various viewpoints. Are conclusion based on the results of the research? The production of new knowledge. The significance of the research to the field and/or to society in general. Interesting proposals for further research or new methodological or theoretical approaches may be considered an additional merit.

**Justification:**

**Criterion 7: Insight and criticality:** Critical assessment of previous research, theories, methods, materials and sources. An insightful approach may be considered an asset.

**Justification:**

**Criterion 8: Implementation of the research:** The consistency and functionality of the structural and technical presentation, clarity of language.

**Justification:**