**DOCTORAL THESIS ASSESSMENT FORM  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

The Custos and other members of the grading committee complete this form at the grading committee meeting following the public examination. The form is attached to the grading statement by the custos. In addition, the Opponent writes her/his own statement.

Doctoral theses are graded on the scale *fail* – *pass* – *pass with distinction*. As a rule, doctoral theses are approved with the grade *pass*. Dissertations that are particularly distinguished and ambitious **in terms of all key assessment criteria** may be awarded the grade of pass with distinction. In such cases, the grade must be separately justified (see the section at the end of this form). The grade *pass with distinction* can be given only to approximately 15% of all doctoral theses.

The grade *fail* can be given only if serious ethical issues have been identified in the doctoral thesis.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of the doctoral candidate** |  | | | |
| **Date of the defence** |  | | | |
| **Name of the doctoral thesis** |  | | | |
| **Opponent, the custos and the faculty member(s) of the grading committee** |  | | | |
| **Criteria for doctoral dissertations:** | | Fail | Pass | Pass with distinction |
| Contains new scientific information | |  |  |  |
| Demonstrates critical thinking | |  |  |  |
| Demonstrates thorough familiarity with the field | |  |  |  |
| Demonstrates mastery of research methods and their application | |  |  |  |
| Is scientifically convincing | |  |  |  |
| Contains justified results | |  |  |  |
| Graded only fail – pass:  Demonstrates scientific integrity and adheres to the ethical norms of research. | |  |  |  |

**GRADE PROPOSAL FOR THE DISSERTATION**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Fail |  |
| Pass |  |
| Pass with distinction |  |

Detailed justification for the grade *pass with distinction:*

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|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date |  |
| Custos’s signature |  |

If the grading committee members are unanimous on evaluation of grades of the all criteria, the custos signs the form and returns it, together with the grading committee’s statement (Custos’s report), to the doctoral education services at the faculty by email to: [valt-postgrad@helsinki.fi](mailto:valt-postgrad@helsinki.fi)

If the members of the grading committee do not reach agreement on grading all the criteria, each member of the grading committee fills in her/his own form and returns it to the doctoral education services at the faculty by email to: [valt-postgrad@helsinki.fi](mailto:valt-postgrad@helsinki.fi)

The Faculty council decides the final grade for the dissertation.