

Defense of the Ph.D. thesis proposal (Status: 24.02.2017)

To complete the Ph.D. application procedure, the Ph.D. thesis proposal has to be defended in front of the members of a graduate school (see in the Doctoral degree regulations of 12.07.2016, § 6 (2)).

The International Graduate School of Biosciences (IGB) of the Faculty of Biology and Biotechnology organizes 4 dates per year at which Ph.D. proposals can be defended. The dates are posted on the internet.

The defenses take place in a lecture room and are public to all members of the university. Each thesis proposal defense consists of a 10 minute presentation followed by a 10 minute discussion.

The presentation and discussion can be in German or English. You may also switch languages throughout the defense (i.e. the presentation may be in English and the discussion in German).

Possible outline for the presentation:

1. Introduction
2. Description of the current state of scientific research
3. Aims of the Ph.D. project
4. Future experiments

In case of high-risk-projects, the Ph.D. candidate should be able to present alternative strategies.

In the IGB meeting of October 30, 2007 it was decided that both Ph.D. thesis supervisors have to be present at the proposal defense. If one of the supervisors cannot attend, then she/he has to submit a detailed evaluation of the proposed thesis project and a judgment of the projected chance of success 3 weeks before the presentation is scheduled. The proposal defense will be cancelled if this statement is missing.

The proposal defense may be rescheduled upon request of one of the Ph.D. thesis supervisors.