Proceedings for a Thesis Defense at TST[1]

Approximately one hour is allotted for the thesis defense or final discussion. In principle, the thesis defense is public, but the student may choose not to have an audience present.

At the first stage, the student will have the opportunity to briefly present the design, methodology, and main results of the thesis (maximum 15 minutes). A student is not obliged to make use of this opportunity.

In the second stage (30 minutes maximum), the supervisor(s) and the assessor have the opportunity to ask the student questions. If there is any time left after that, the audience (if any) will be given the opportunity to present any additional questions to the student.

In the third stage, the examiners retire in a closed session and determine the final score for the thesis among themselves, partly on the basis of the thesis defense.

> *[If the thesis is the last part of the program to be completed:] Also in combination with the final score for the thesis, the examiners determine the final judicium that belongs to the study program taken based on a calculation made by the Student Administration. Subsequently, the remaining required papers for administration are filled out, the prepared diploma and grade lists are signed by the examiners (there is no strict time limit for this, but usually this stage does not exceed 10 minutes).*

In the fourth and final stage (approximately 5 minutes), the examiners return to the site of the thesis defense, after which a (very) short *laudatio* is first pronounced by the supervisor.

> *[If the thesis is the last part of the program to be completed:] Subsequently, the diploma and the grade lists are presented to the student. This is also immediately the end of the thesis defense.*

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[1] In the case of the Bachelor's thesis and, in some cases, also the Master's thesis, the thesis is not the last component that the student completes in the program. In that case, the degree ceremony takes place at a later time and the italicized indented text parts do not apply.