

TEACHERS COLLEGE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Office of Doctoral Studies
Box 172 - 525 West 120th Street - New York, NY 10027
Phone: (212) 678-4050 -Fax: (212) 678-4050

DEFENSE COMMITTEE MATRIX FOR Ph.D. STUDENTS

	Member of Candidate's Dissertation Proposal Committee ¹	Member of Candidate's TC Academic Department ³	Member of GSAS ⁴
Chairperson		Can be from candidate's department.	X
Sponsor²	X	X	X
Third Examiner	X		X
Fourth and Fifth Examiners⁵		Can be from candidate's department but <u>not</u> from candidate's program	

X = Must meet the criteria

NOTES:

1. The "Sponsor" and "Third Examiner" are both identified during the dissertation proposal process. Faculty who serve in those roles continue through the oral defense of the dissertation. Candidates with three member proposal committees can have the third member serve in any position, but if not GSAS approved, they cannot serve as committee Chairperson.
2. Typically the "Sponsor" is a Teachers College faculty member whose primary appointment is in the candidate's academic department. Under unusual circumstances, a candidate may petition an exception to this requirement. The petition needs the review and approval of the Chair of the candidate's academic department and, with the chair's approval, the TC Committee on the PhD.
3. At least two (2) committee members must be from the candidate's department (preferably the candidate's program).
4. At least three (3) members: the Chairperson, Sponsor, and Third Examiner, must be GSAS approved faculty. Link to GSAS Approved Faculty: <https://gsas.columbia.edu/student-guide/dissertation/doctoral-dissertation-sponsors>.
5. One (1) of the committee members of the oral defense committee must be a faculty member from outside TC (e.g., Columbia, Barnard, NYU, etc.). Sponsor requests for non-TC/CU faculty must be sent via e-mail to ODS with a copy of the member's CV. GSAS requires they must be a faculty member, clinician, or practitioner who holds a position at another university or research institution. Emeritus CU faculty may not serve on a candidate's committee. All exceptions may be petitioned in writing by the Sponsor to the Manager of the Office of Doctoral Studies who will bring it to the Dean of GSAS for review.