Thesis Oral Defense Rubric

Student: _______________________________

Committee Chair: ______________________

First Reader: ________________________

Second Reader: _____________________

I. Learning Goals

- Students will demonstrate the ability to defend, clarify, and expand upon arguments made in the written thesis.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to articulate their understanding of the nature of the discipline of theology.

II. Instructions

- Listen to the oral defense.
- Using the rubric key, evaluate the defense and provide a total score.

III. Rubric Indicator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rubric Indicator</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Defends, clarifies, and expands upon written thesis argument with further evidence and argument</td>
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<tr>
<td>Directly and correctly answers the examiner’s questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrates knowledge of thesis subject, primary sources, and background scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrates ability to synthesize thesis topic with broader topics in the discipline of theology</td>
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<td>Shows awareness of the limits of his or her knowledge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrates an understanding of the nature of the discipline of theology</td>
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<tr>
<th>Total Score</th>
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IV. Evaluation Score (Please List Number Score) ______

V. Evaluation Possibilities for the Defense

- Pass (a score of 18 or above)
- Fail (a score of 17 or below, with option for one retake)

___________________________  _______________________
Faculty Name                  Faculty Signature

Rubric Key

5 = Outstanding
4 = Very Good
3 = Acceptable
2 = Needs Work
1 = Unacceptable