

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION PROCESS CHECKLIST

Preparing for Your Final Semester

- ETD Workshop | [CLICK HERE](#)**
Attend an in-person ETD Workshop or, if unable to attend, complete the ETD Online Workshop and review the ETD Resource Center Website the semester prior to graduation.
- Course Registration**
Register for at least 2 credit hours of dissertation (7980) in the semester of ETD submission/graduation.

Beginning Your Final Semester

- Application for Graduation | [CLICK HERE](#)**
Submit the Online Graduation Application through OASIS prior to the deadline for that semester. You will also complete a Graduate Exit Survey as part of the Graduation Application. This replaces the old exit survey and our office can verify completion in OASIS, so you no longer need to provide a print out of this exit survey. Check with your department to see if they have earlier/additional submission deadlines.
- Office of Graduate Studies ETD Online Registration | [CLICK HERE](#)**
Complete the ETD Online Registration process to verify you are enrolled in dissertation hours & provided needed information.
- Certificate of Approval | [DOWNLOAD PDF](#)**
Download, fill out all fields on your computer, save, and then print out your Certificate of Approval before your Final Defense.
- NORC Survey of Earned Doctorates | [CLICK HERE](#)**
Register and complete the online NORC Survey. Print out the approval page and place with your Certificate of Approval.
- Plagiarism Check | [CLICK HERE](#)**
Work with your major professor to submit your dissertation through TurnItIn via Canvas. Once your professor reviews the results, they should provide you with a copy of the first page of the plagiarism summary, which should be submitted with the Certificate of Approval.
- Final Defense**
Successfully defend the dissertation and make all requested revisions. Obtain signatures and dates on your Certificate of Approval from both your entire committee and your department/dean's office.

Submitting your ETD & Paperwork

- Certificate of Approval Packet Submission**
Submit the original completed Certificate of Approval along with NORC Survey Completion page, & the first page of the Plagiarism Summary. These forms must be submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies together. (NOTE: Students unable to make it to campus may submit a scanned copy of these forms via email to etd@grad.usf.edu.)

Office Hours & Location:

Office of Graduate Studies – John & Grace Allen Building – ALN 226 ([MAP](#)) | Monday – Friday | 8:00am – 5:00pm

- PDF Conversion of ETD**
Do a final review of your manuscript to ensure it meets our formatting requirements. (See the [General](#) & [Section-Specific](#) Formatting Requirements.) Convert your dissertation document to PDF using Word (Save as > PDF).
- ProQuest Account Creation & Submission of PDF | [CLICK HERE](#)**
Create a new account on the ProQuest website (linked above) and upload the dissertation in PDF format to ProQuest.
The submitted PDF must be the final, committee-approved version of the dissertation. It will not be reviewed by the Office of Graduate Studies unless submission of all required documents and ETD Registration have been completed.

Completing the Review Process

- Confirmation of ETD Submission**
After submitting to ProQuest, the student should receive a confirmation email from ProQuest – it will go to whichever email you list in ProQuest, so be sure it's something you monitor frequently.
- Graduate Studies Review**
Review of the ETD will generally require at least 5 business days to review, although ETDs submitted close to or on the deadline may require longer review times.
- Revisions Required**
If the Office of Graduate Studies requires modifications to the submitted ETD, the student will receive an email with a link to an annotated PDF. The student must make all of the corrections and resubmit the corrected ETD to ProQuest by the stated final clearance deadline. (Be sure to click on "Submit Revision" within ProQuest - this lets us know you are ready for your revisions to be annotated!) We will then re-review the corrected ETD as described above. The review may require an additional 5-7 business days. This step will repeat until the ETD is approved.
- ETD Approval**
Once the ETD is approved, the student and committee will receive an approval email. The process is now complete!
- ETD Manuscript Processing Fee | [CLICK HERE](#)**
Fees will be assessed after the ETD has been approved (usually at the end of the semester) and will appear in OASIS as a Graduate Manuscript Processing Fee (GMPF). Final transcripts and/or the diploma will not be released until all fees are paid.