



PROGRAM FOR THE DEFENCE OF THE PhD-THESIS AT BIOVIT

Formal procedures

- To ensure that the public defence is a formal and ceremonial occasion, a traditional dress code for the actors is maintained. For example, men use dark suit or traditional costumes (bunad/folkedrakt) and women use clothing according to the similar dress code (although dark colours is not needed). This applies to the dissertation leader (head of the department), the evaluation committee, the candidate and the supervisors. The coordinator of the evaluation committee informs the external opponents about this.
- The dissertation leader arranges a lunch for the evaluation committee and the supervisors, for example at about 11:15 or 11:30 at the meeting room H 105 in Husdyrbygningen or T243 in Tårnbygningen. At the same time, procedures for the dissertation and other details, including the timetable, can be clarified.
- The committee coordinator ensures that the candidate is familiar with the routines for the trial lecture and dissertation.
- The trial lecture and dissertation will be held on the same day, preferably Fridays. The trial lecture is held at 12:15, followed by a 15-minute break before the dissertation starts. The date of the dissertation must be agreed with the head of the department as early as possible.
- Trial lecture and dissertation will normally be held at Festsalen in Urbygningen, at auditorium H109 in Husdyrbygningen (Fridays after lunch there are no lectures in H109) or in the auditorium at SKP (Centre for Plant Research in Controlled Climate). The research education consultant arranges flowers for decoration, which the candidates should bring with them after the dissertation.
- The trial lecture begins with a procession. The dissertation leader knocks on the door and the audience rise before the procession enters the room. The dissertation leader holds an introductory welcome speech. Here the candidate and her/his doctoral education as well as the members of the evaluation committee and supervisors will be presented before the trial lecture begins. In the procession, the dissertation leader, the evaluation committee (committee member 1 and 2, the coordinator) and candidate are consecutive sequence. After the trial lecture, the procession leaves the room while the audience rise in the same sequence. Before the dissertation begins, the procession enters the room in the same sequence. After the dissertation have ended, the procession leaves the room, but now with the candidate *after* the dissertation leader, before the evaluation committee.
- The opponents can choose to question the candidate one at a time, or alternately within the same theme within a total period of approximately two hours and preferably with a short break halfway.
- A reception with wine/mineral water and canapés is held for the participants at the VIP room in Urbygningen, in the cantina at SKP or at the cantina in Husdyrbygningen after completion of the dissertation. A gift, including a card with the candidate's name and date, is handed over by the dissertation leader to the candidate



- In addition, NMBU's [procedures for trial lecture and public defence](#) of the *PhD thesis* is in operation.

Timetable

12:15 The dissertation leader's introduction

12:20-13:05 Trial lecture (45 min.)

13:05-13:20 Break (15. Min). The evaluation committee come together during the break, to conclude whether the trial lecture has been approved or not.

13:20-13:50 Presentation of the thesis (recommended duration approx. 30 min)

13:50-15:55 (approx.) The opponents' (committee member 1 and 2) discussion with the candidate. The opponents can choose to question the candidate one at a time, or alternately. A short *break* can be arranged halfway (approx. 15:00) if needed.

~ **15:55** (approx.) The dissertation leader's closure

The committee presents their conclusion at the reception that takes place at the cantina afterwards (approx. 30 min). There will be served canapés and wine/mineral water.