

Doctoral Dissertation Examination Criteria for the United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, Tottori University

Review System

The examination of doctoral dissertations shall be conducted in a rigorous and fair manner by an examining committee, which is comprised of one chief examiner and four assistant examiners, in an open examination meeting.

Evaluation Items

1. Significance of the research theme

The dissertation should clearly present the research theme based on the accumulation of past research in Agriculture and other related fields. It can be deemed significant as an academic paper in terms of novelty, originality and applicability.

2. Understanding and presentation of previous research

The author quotes appropriate materials and literature of previous research properly in the pursuit of the research theme; has an accurate understanding of the materials and literature used and has evaluated them properly; and cites the materials and literature of previous research properly when developing arguments.

3. Publication of academic papers that form the basis of the dissertation

The content of “academic papers published in academic journals, which form the basis of the dissertation” as provided for in Articles 2 and 6 of the Rules for Dissertations, the United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, Tottori University, should be included in the dissertation.

4. Validity of research methods

The materials and references, which are adopted to pursue the research theme, as well as the research methods used in experiments, surveys and analyses, should be appropriate. In particular, the author should adopt research methods while giving due consideration to research ethics and safety in the implementation of the research.

5. Scientific validity of the argumentation method and the conclusion

The point of any argument should be developed in a clear, empirical and logical manner throughout the paper from the presentation of the point to the conclusion.

6. Format and style of the dissertation

Wording and text representation should be accurate and consistent. The dissertation should follow the rules for the style of academic papers, including how to cite literature and present charts.

Evaluation Criteria

Only those papers that satisfy all of the above evaluation items (#1 to #6) can be accepted as dissertations.