Introduction to HSDM Research

By leveraging its scientific strengths and focusing on the areas of skeletal biology and the pathology of bones, joints, vascular and connective tissues, as well as clinical, health policy, and global health research, HSDM has established a strategic direction for its research programs. As the only School within Harvard University with its own clinical facility, HSDM continues to differentiate itself through a unique emphasis on basic and clinical research combined with exemplary patient care and education. All DMSc students at HSDM must complete Fundamentals of Research, Scholarly Project, AGE Research Seminar Series, Research Dissertation and Defense, and present this work at HSDM Student Research Day as part of their graduation requirement. The Office of Research provides guidance and will support students as they fulfill their research requirements.

HSDM Office of Research

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Guidebook Outline

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## Research Requirement Grid

**DMSc Candidates Matriculating in 2018:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
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<tr>
<td>IDP602: Fundamentals of Research</td>
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<td></td>
<td>IDPXXX: Scholarly Review (Present)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Research Day (Attend)</td>
<td>Student Research Day (Attend)</td>
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<td>Student Research Day (Present)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral Qualifying Committee Approval</td>
<td>Thesis Advisory Committee Approval</td>
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<td>Thesis Defense &amp; Thesis Submission</td>
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Note: DMSc Research Academy students will complete their program in 3 years.

## Research Requirement Grid

**DMSc candidates who matriculated in 2017, 2016, 2015:**

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<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
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<td>IDP602: Introduction to Research</td>
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<td>IDP701: NIH-Proposal Examination</td>
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<td>Student Research Day (Attend)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note: DMSc Research Academy students will complete their program in 3 years.
Fundamentals of Research

The fundamentals of research course will expose students to the basic and clinical research that is being conducted at HSDM. It will also provide the students the necessary tools for developing a testable scientific hypothesis, design and critique a scientific experiment as well as organize and write a scientific paper. The course will also teach the students proper oral scientific presentation and communication. Students will be required to complete writing and group assignments, lesson quizzes and prepare a presentation. There are 11 mandatory sessions from 3:00 to 5:00 pm in REB Classroom 106. A drop box has been set up and all assignments will be posted to that. Course Directors are Dr. Gili Naveh and Dr. Hawazin Elani.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2018
• Course introduction, objectives
• Philosophy of Science

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2018
• Scientific translation - from the lab to the bed side/chair side

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2018
• Ethics – scientific conduct of research, reliable presentation of results, human and animal studies – IACUC/IRB

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2018
• Literature search tools and endnote overview
• Overview of current laboratory research methods

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2018
• Panel – Basic Science PI’s

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2018
• Panel – Clinical Research PI’s

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2018
• Hypothesis development – small groups session

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2018
• Present and discuss the developed hypothesis in small groups

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2018
• Experimental design and methods, scientific based dentistry with program directors

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2018
• Introduction writing
• Results and conclusions

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2018
• Abstract writing
• Scientific communication, how to format a scientific presentation, how to give scientific feedback

MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2019
• Student presentations (5-6 students)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2019
• Student presentations (5-6 students)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2019
• Student presentations (5-6 students)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2019
• Student presentations (5-6 students)
Scholarly Review

BACKGROUND
The Scholarly Review is a new requirement for DMSc students matriculating in 2018 and later. The Scholarly Review is a critical evaluation of a particular problem or research question. The type of review (systematic review, literature review, case-control studies, etc.) is up to you, but the Scholarly Review must transform a research idea or clinical problem into an answerable research question. The Office of Research will approval topics and students must complete a 10-page review and present it to 2 faculty members. This will provide DMSc students with a foundation for their thesis proposal.

ORGANIZATION
- Refine a research idea or clinical problem into an answerable research question.
- Research the importance of the idea (clear, scientific explanation of why the problem is critical). Keep the review focused.
- Search the literature for relevant evidence and critically review the literature.
- Evaluate the approach, results and practical implications. Make use of feedback from your colleagues, program director and/or office of research.

WRITING A SCHOLARLY REVIEW
- Title
- Abstract
- Introduction/Overview
- Background/Literature Review
- Materials/Methods
- Discussion/Conclusion

PRESENTING A SCHOLARLY REVIEW
The Office of Research will assign two examiners and schedule this for you. Please be prepared to give a 10-minute overview of your project (you may use a PowerPoint presentation if you like). Please do not use more than 5 slides for your presentation. Be prepared to discuss why you chose this project/topic and the significance of your research question.

NIH-Proposal Examination
The NIH proposal examination is a requirement for DMSc students who matriculated in 2017 or earlier. These students must write an NIH-formatted proposal followed by an examination of that proposal. The proposal follows the NIH format below (approximately 12 single spaced pages total). The proposal would in most cases describe a testable hypothesis based on evaluation of the relevant literature, describe critical experiments to test the hypothesis, describe interpretation of expected outcomes, and discuss alternative strategies should problems arise. Please see the Office of Research for examples.

The format follows a typical NIH proposal and includes the following:
- Specific Aims
- Research Strategy – a) Significance b) Innovation c) Approach
- Literature Cited

The primary goal of the NIH- Proposal Examination is to evaluate the student’s ability to identify and define a specific testable hypothesis based on evaluation of the relevant literature, to propose critical experiments to test the hypothesis, and to interpret the outcomes in a way that indicates awareness of the limitation of the methods used. You will be examined on your proposal (about 1 hour) in front of 2 members of the DMSc Examination Committee. The Office of Research will assign examiners and schedule this for you. Please be prepared to give a 10-minute overview of your project (you may use a PowerPoint presentation if you like).
1. Discuss why you chose this project/topic
2. Invite questions from the reviewers
3. Be prepared to answer questions regarding:
   a. the significance of your research questions
   b. the specific aims
   c. the selected methods (i.e. what would you do if the experiments do not work out as planned)?
   d. the expected outcomes i.e. what would the implications of successful outcomes be for the field or specialty?

AGE Research Seminar Series

The AGE Research Seminar Series are held in the spring semester each year. Graduating DMSc students must present their research to their colleagues and faculty. Attendance is mandatory for all AGE students regardless if you are presenting or not. Students who are presenting must submit their abstract a week in advance and will prepare a 15 minute presentation. Students will be evaluated on:

- Abstract quality and formatting
- Overview of the project
- Specific aims and hypothesis
- Research design and methods
- Results, discussion and conclusions
- Responses to comments and questions
- Quality of the presentation

Identify A Research Mentor & Project

The importance of mentor and project selection should not be overlooked; they are crucial to the quality of your experience and the successful completion of your requirements. Thus, you should expect to devote a considerable amount of time to this step, critically assessing the research environment offered by the mentor. Clearly, you should find the proposed project interesting and important. Beyond that, it is essential that the specific aims of the project be clearly delineated and feasible within the available timeframe. The mentor should have the resources to enable you to achieve the specific aims. If your project involves human subjects, you should ask whether the mentor has obtained the necessary IRB approval. If the mentor has not obtained approval, you should plan for additional time so that the mentor can obtain such approval. Ideally, a mentor will have demonstrated productivity by a record of publication and a record of private or public funding in a given area. A mentor does not have to be in the field of dentistry. The most comprehensive database for Faculty mentors is on the Harvard Catalyst website: http://connects.catalyst.harvard.edu/Profiles/SearchProfiles.aspx.

Obtain IRB/IACUC Approval

HSDM students are subject to the same policies, guidelines and regulations as the Faculty of Medicine. It is therefore necessary for student research projects to be reviewed by the Office of Research Subject Protection. The Committee on Human Studies has an Internal Review Board and reviews all human subject-related research projects. The Standing Committee on Animals has an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee and reviews all animal subject-related research projects. It is important to note, it is HSDM’s policy that students should not submit their own application, but instead, work with their Research Mentor under his/her application. Information on HMS/HSDM IRB and IACUC training, requirements, and approvals, and all relevant documents, can be found on the website of the HMS Office for Research Subject protection, http://www.hms.harvard.edu/orsp/index.html. Students are required to obtain all appropriate HMS/HSDM institutional and site approvals (domestic or international) before commencing research activities. If you have a question about whether your research even needs an IRB review, contact them. They can be reached at orsp@hms.harvard.edu; 617-432-3071. Dr. Shigemi Nagai is also an excellent resource for IRB questions and troubleshooting.

Oral Qualifying Examination

Following completion of the majority of the didactic requirements, approximately at the end of Year 2, DMSc candidates must satisfactorily complete an Oral Qualifying Examination. The examination should be taken by the end of the second year for candidates in the combined DMSc and certificate program and by the end of the first year for candidates in the Research Academy. The examination committee members are selected by the student in consultation with their research mentor, the Office of Advanced Graduate Education, and the Program Director. The Committee consists of at least three examiners, two with expertise in different areas of Oral Biology, and a third with expertise in the student's area of research specialization. Please note, 2 of the 3 Committee members must be Associate Professors or Professors at Harvard University, or a Harvard-affiliated institution (such as the Forsyth Institute). The research mentor and
program director can be present for the exam but are not voting members of the Committee. The oral qualifying exam should be approximately 1-2 hours in length. The subject matter varies depending upon the candidate’s coursework and area of interest but should not be limited to the candidate’s area of research. Candidates may be asked to provide an overview of their thesis project as part of the exam and should be prepared to present this information if prompted. The membership of the Oral Qualifying Committee must be approved by the Program Director and the Director of Advanced Graduate Education before a meeting is convened. Students may be asked to obtain CV’s for individuals who are not affiliated with Harvard University or are new to Harvard. Committee members must be approved before an exam is scheduled. Once the committee has been chosen and the exam scheduled, the Registrar must be notified in writing of the date, time, location, and names of the Committee members at least one week prior to the exam. Students who fail a part(s) or all of an oral qualifying exam must complete a make-up exam within 6 months of the original exam. Failure to do so will require that a student re-take the exam in its entirety with a new Oral Qualifying Exam Committee. The Registrar in the Office of Dental Education generates the Committee Approval form for the OQE.

**Thesis Process**
- Select Thesis Advisory Committee
- Complete Research
- Check-In Meetings with Thesis Advisory Committee
- Write Thesis
- Thesis Defense
- Thesis Submission

**Thesis Advisory Committee**
The Thesis Advisory Committee advises and counsels students on their projects. The Thesis Advisory Committee is comprised of a minimum of three full-time faculty members. Part-time faculty or outside experts may serve on the committee based upon the nature of the project and the individual’s area of expertise. All members of the committee should be well acquainted with the student’s area of research. You may select one non-HSDM member appointed in a preclinical science department of the Faculty of Medicine, the Faculty of Public Health or the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (if the research is related to biomaterials or bioengineering). The research mentor and program director will be non-voting members of the Committee and do not serve as official readers. The membership of the Thesis Advisory Committee must be approved by the Program Director and the Dean for Research before a meeting is convened. Students may be asked to obtain CV’s for individuals who are not affiliated with Harvard University or are new to the AGE Research process. Students must obtain approval before any meeting is scheduled. The form for Thesis Advisory Committee may be found in the Research Guidebook.

**Write Thesis**
The format to be used for the thesis should be either that of a journal article or that of a formal thesis. The student should work closely with the mentor during the writing phases of the project. In either case, there are no page requirements or limitations. If you intend to use the journal article format, consult the requirements of the journal to which you intend to submit the manuscript. At your mentor’s discretion the format can be either one of the following: (1) A journal article of publishable quality, or (2) A formal thesis with the following thesis guidelines:

**TITLE PAGE:**

A Thesis Presented by

*Full Name, including Middle Name of Author with No Abbreviations*  

to

The Faculty of Medicine

In partial fulfillment of the requirements

for the degree of

Doctor of Dental Medicine

Research Mentor: Name, Title

Institutional affiliation if other than HSDM

Harvard School of Dental Medicine

Boston, Massachusetts

Month and Year of Submission
ABSTRACT: In 500 words or less, summarize your project.

INTRODUCTION: Significance, Hypothesis, and Background. This section should review the pertinent literature and outline the major purpose of the research. Reference should be made to previous relevant studies in order to explain what has been done as well as to explain the purpose of this research. This section should include a succinct articulation of the hypothesis tested.

INNOVATION AND APPROACH: Experimental Design, Expected Outcomes, and Interpretation. Describe clearly and carefully the procedures and materials used; a reader should be able to repeat your exact methodology. This section should also include the overall research design and statistical methods.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION: Report the results in a well-organized fashion with minimal subjective comment or reference to the literature. This section serves mainly to introduce tables and figures and to call attention to their significant parts.

CONCLUSION AND FUTURE DIRECTION: The data should be explained and interpreted with reference to the previous literature. The significance of the results may also be included. This is the section in which to emphasize subjective comment. In a thesis, the scope of the discussion extends beyond that of a journal article. For example, you may discuss why your first experiments failed, or how you arrived at the design for a particular protocol, or what you would do next if you were continuing the study.

REFERENCES: References must be double-spaced and numbered consecutively as they are cited. References first cited in a table or figure legend should be numbered so that they will be in sequence with references cited in the text at the point where the table or figure is first mentioned.

Thesis Defense

Thesis Defense Committee

At the point when the student has completed his or her research, the Thesis Defense Committee will be formed. The Defense Committee should be similar in composition to the Thesis Advisory Committee; however, the membership of the Defense Committee must be different from that of the Advisory Committee. There may be carry over from the Thesis Advisory Committee to the Thesis Defense Committee however there must be two new readers. In addition, the student’s program director and research mentor cannot serve as official members of the Defense Committee. The membership of the Thesis Defense Committee must be approved by the Program Director and the Dean for Research before a meeting is convened. Students may be asked to obtain CV’s for individuals who are not affiliated with Harvard University or are new to the AGE Research process. Students must obtain approval before any meeting is scheduled.

Thesis Defense

When the Thesis Advisory Committee determines that the student has completed his/her research project, the student must generate a research thesis. Guidelines for the thesis will be provided by the Office for Research. The student should schedule a meeting of the Thesis Defense Committee, as the thesis nears completion. At least 2 weeks prior to the meeting, the thesis must be distributed to members of the Committee. In addition, the Office of Research must be notified, in writing, as to the date, time, and location of the Thesis Defense as well as the membership of the Thesis Defense Committee. Thesis guidelines are in the DMSc Research Guidebook and samples of theses may be obtained from the Office of Research. At the conclusion of the defense, the candidate is excused from the room while the Committee votes on the acceptability of the thesis.

Thesis Submission

If the thesis is acceptable, specific changes in the written document are often recommended by Committee members. These must be incorporated into a revised version of the thesis, which is then circulated among Committee members for final approval. If the thesis is unacceptable, the student is expected to carry out additional experiments, make recommended changes, submit a revised thesis, and reconvene the Thesis Defense Committee at a later date. Once you have successfully defended your thesis, please provide the Office of Research with a copy of the signature sheet. You will then submit your thesis online at http://etds.lib.harvard.edu, it will automatically generate one bound copy for Countway Library’s Archive Department. If you would like additional copies (i.e. your program director, yourself, your family, etc.), you must pay for this service and suggest using: http://thesisondemand.com.
HSDM Student Research Day
Student Research Day is an annual event held each April. The primary focus of this all-day event is for graduating DMD, MMSc, DMSc, and PhD students to showcase their research to faculty as well as fellow students. All graduating DMSc students are required to present an electronic poster and must submit an abstract (500 words maximum) of their research to the Office of Research for inclusion in an abstract book. A sample may be found at the end of this Guidebook. The Office of Research awards “best poster” certificates for each student group. E-Poster guidelines and a sample will be circulated in February 2019. Faculty and Postdoctoral Fellow reviewers look at six criteria when evaluating posters:

- Student’s ability to describe the work and its significance;
- Organization and clarity of the poster presentation;
- Introduction and formulation of hypothesis and scientific method;
- Quality and extent of work done by the student;
- Student’s overall understanding of the project; and
- Overall evaluation of the poster and presentation.

Additional Research Information

ACADEMIC, PROFESSIONAL, AND SCIENTIFIC CONDUCT:

PREPARATION OF PAPERS AND OTHER WORK
All homework assignments, projects, lab reports, papers and examinations submitted for a course are expected to be the student’s own work. Students should always take great care to distinguish their own ideas and knowledge from information derived from other sources. The term "sources" includes not only published or electronic primary and secondary material, but also information and opinions gained directly from other people. It is each student’s responsibility to understand the expectations of academic integrity, proper forms of citation, and submission of one’s own work. In addition, collaboration in the completion of assignments is prohibited unless explicitly permitted by the instructor, in which case it must be acknowledged.

AUTHORSHIP GUIDELINES
Authorship is an explicit way of assigning responsibility and giving credit for intellectual work. The two are linked. Authorship practices should be judged by how honestly they reflect actual contributions to the final product. Authorship is important to the reputation, academic promotion, and grant support of the individuals involved, as well as to the strength and reputation of their institution. The Faculty Council of Harvard Medical School has endorsed the following statement. Although authorship practices differ from one setting to another, and individual situations often require judgment, variation in practices should be within these basic guidelines.

- Everyone who is listed as an author should have made a substantial, direct, intellectual contribution to the work. For example (in the case of a research report) they should have contributed to the conception, design, analysis and/or interpretation of data. Honorary or guest authorship is not acceptable. Acquisition of funding and provision of technical services, patients, or materials, while they may be essential to the work, are not in themselves sufficient contributions to justify authorship.
- Everyone who has made substantial intellectual contributions to the work should be an author. Everyone who has made other substantial contributions should be acknowledged.
- When research is done by teams whose members are highly specialized, individual’s contributions and responsibility may be limited to specific aspects of the work.
- All authors should participate in writing the manuscript by reviewing drafts and approving the final version.
- One author should take primary responsibility for the work as a whole even if he or she does not have an in-depth understanding of every part of the work.

RESEARCH RESOURCES:

CORE RESEARCH FACILITIES
The Harvard Catalyst core facilities database is powered by the eagle-i network and is searchable by category, institution, or keyword [https://cores.catalyst.harvard.edu](https://cores.catalyst.harvard.edu). Please contact Jim McBride, Director of Core Labs at HSDM, if you are interested in learning more about our facilities or have questions regarding facilities, equipment, or training. It is important to note that you must be trained to use equipment and access laboratories at HSDM.
SUBMITTING A GRANT APPLICATION
If you do plan on submitting a grant application, please work with the Office of Administration and Finance. They must be notified prior to the submission deadline. All grant applications must be approved through the Office of Administration and Finance as well as your Research Mentor prior to submission. This pertains to all funding (including but not limited to government awards, foundation awards, dental society awards) even if they do not require institutional approval. If you have any questions about this policy, please speak with Andrea Morris (andrea_morris@hsdm.harvard.edu).

RESEARCH TRAVEL AWARDS/POSTER PRINTING
If you present a research poster at a national or international conference, then you are eligible to receive a $500 travel stipend and poster printing through the Office of Research. Please note, you may apply for this stipend annually (once per fiscal year); contact Dawn DeCosta to apply for a travel stipend after completing the form located in this Guidebook. For poster printing, the HSDM Office of Research has an account at www.phdposters.com. From this link, click orange tab “Start you order now” then under the three orange tabs, you will see a link "or use a PhD Posters group account,” click here and then log in HSDM; password HSDMResearch.

SAMPLE RESEARCH DAY ABSTRACT

A Longitudinal Study of Ovarian Morphology in Healthy Ovulatory Women

Meagan K. Murphy
Harvard Medical School, Class of 2008

Corrine K. Welt, MD
The Reproductive Endocrine Unit, Department of Medicine
Massachusetts General Hospital

Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) affects 5-7% of reproductive aged women. Though its phenotypic expression is variable, PCOS is also associated with infertility, insulin resistance, obesity, cardiovascular risk factors, and endometrial cancer. PCOS is diagnosed using two of three clinical criteria: menstrual dysfunction, hyperandrogenism, and/or polycystic ovarian morphology on ultrasound. Polycystic ovarian morphology (PCOM) is defined as increased ovarian volume or ≥ 12 follicles/ovary.

PCOM on ultrasound is almost universal in women with PCOS. However, PCOM is also found in 16-25% of apparently normal, regularly cycling women. Normally cycling women with PCOM have been shown to have higher androgen and fasting insulin, and lower SHBG levels than women with normal ovarian morphology. Though these levels were still within normal ranges, they reflect trends toward the hormonal abnormalities seen in PCOS.

Based on these hormonal differences, we hypothesized that women with PCOM have an increased propensity to develop PCOS over time compared to women with normal ovarian morphology. To test these hypotheses, women with regular menstrual cycles and normal or polycystic ovary morphology on ultrasound were studied (n=38) 1.7-18.3 years after a previous ultrasound (mean±SD, 8.6±5.1 years). Subjects underwent a repeat ovarian ultrasound, interval menstrual history, physical exam, and measurement of gonadotropin, androgen and metabolic hormone levels in the early follicular phase.

At the first visit, twenty-three women (60.5%) had PCOM and fifteen (39.5%) had normal ovarian morphology. Among women who had PCOM at previous visit, twelve maintained PCOM and eleven converted to normal morphology at the second visit. In subjects that converted to normal morphology, there was a greater decrease in testosterone from the first to second visit than in those that maintained PCOM (-25.1±10.2 vs. 2.3±4.5 ng/mL; p<0.05). One subject with PCOM developed irregular menses during the interval. Among women with normal ovarian morphology at previous visit, two developed PCOM (13.3%), and thirteen maintained normal ovarian morphology. There was no obvious difference in weight, androgens, or metabolic parameters in the two subjects who developed PCOM.

These data indicate that PCOM in women with regular cycles does not appear to confer increased risk for the development of PCOS. Approximately half of women with PCOM convert to normal ovarian morphology with aging, and this conversion is associated with a greater decrease in testosterone over time. These data also show that in women with regular cycles, it is not common to develop PCOM if the ovaries are normal on first assessment.
DMSc Thesis Advisory Committee Approval

Complete all fillable fields below:

Name of Student

Project Title

Research Mentor

PROPOSED THESIS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS
The Thesis Advisory Committee is comprised of a minimum of three full-time faculty members, one of whom works outside of HSDM. Please note, 2 of 3 of the members must be Associate Professors or Professors. Exceptions will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Part-time faculty or outside experts may serve on the committee based upon the nature of the project and the individual’s area of expertise. All members of the committee should be well acquainted with the student’s area of research. The one non-HSDM member should be appointed in a pre-clinical science department of the Faculty of Medicine, the Faculty of Public Health, or the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (if the research is related to biomaterials or bioengineering). The research mentor and program director will be non-voting members of the Committee and do not serve as official readers. You must plan on meeting and/or checking in with your committee two times a year.

PLEASE PRINT THE NAMES AND TITLES OF THE MEMBERS OF YOUR THESIS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Please indicate who the chair of the committee is with an asterisk (*)

Committee Member 1 Name and Academic Title

Committee Member 2 Name and Academic Title

Committee Member 3 Name and Academic Title

PROGRAM DIRECTOR SIGNATURE

DATE

DEAN OR RESEARCH SIGNATURE

DATE

Please return completed form to Dawn_DeCosta@hsdm.harvard.edu
Complete all fillable fields below:

Name of Student

Project Title

Research Mentor

Meeting Date

Committee Member Chair Signature

☐ APPROVE THESIS PROPOSAL

☐ APPROVE THESIS PROPOSAL WITH THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS

☐ DISAPPROVE THESIS PROPOSAL FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS

Please return completed form to Dawn_DeCosta@hsdm.harvard.edu
We, the undersigned, have read and approved the thesis of **INSERT YOUR NAME HERE** submitted in partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree of a Doctorate of Medical Sciences at Harvard School of Dental Medicine.

**INSERT YOUR NAME HERE**

________________________
**INSERT NAME OF THESIS DEFENSE COMMITTEE MEMBER HERE**

________________________
**INSERT NAME OF THESIS DEFENSE COMMITTEE MEMBER HERE**

________________________
**INSERT NAME OF THESIS DEFENSE COMMITTEE MEMBER HERE**

**INSERT DATE**
Complete all fillable fields below:

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<th>Name of Student</th>
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<tr>
<td>Project Title</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Mentor</td>
<td>______________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Date</td>
<td>______________________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EXAMINER CHECKLIST**

- The scope of the project is realistic and can be carried out by a single investigator?  
  - YES  
  - NO
- Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field?  
  - YES  
  - NO
- Student presented a clear overview of the project.  
  - YES  
  - NO
- Student followed the proper format for their written proposal (Specific Aims, Research Strategy, Significance, Innovation and Approach, Literature Cited).  
  - YES  
  - NO
- Student presented a clear rationale for the hypothesis/research questions.  
  - YES  
  - NO
- Student showed a good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the methods chosen.  
  - YES  
  - NO
- Student defined expected outcomes of the study.  
  - YES  
  - NO
- Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented?  
  - YES  
  - NO

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

Please return completed form to Dawn_DeCosta@hsdm.harvard.edu
NIH Examination Grade Sheet

Complete all fillable fields below:

Name of Student

Project Title

Research Mentor

Meeting Date

EXAM GRADE:
☐ PASS (No revisions necessary)
☐ CONDITIONAL PASS (See details below)
☐ FAIL (See details below)

The evaluators will issue a passing grade if the following recommendations are met:

Student must make the recommended changes to his or her proposal by (DATE to be decided by evaluators):

Revision Approval Method (Please check one):
☐ Revisions can be sent by student to committee via e-mail for approval.
☐ Revisions are extensive, and committee must be re-convened.
☐ Other:

☐ FAIL (Proposal must be completely re-done. Exam must be re-taken.)

Comments regarding this decision:

Please return completed form to Dawn_DeCosta@hsdm.harvard.edu
Scholarly Review Topic Approval

Complete all fillable fields below:

Name of Student

Project Title

Research Mentor

☐ APPROVE SCHOLARLY REVIEW TOPIC

☐ APPROVE SCHOLARLY REVIEW TOPIC WITH THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

PROGRAM DIRECTOR SIGNATURE

DATE

Please return completed form to Dawn_DeCosta@hsdm.harvard.edu
Complete all fillable fields below:

Name of Student

Date

Evaluator

Evaluator

Did the student follow the Scholarly Review written format guidelines (title, abstract, introduction/overview, background/literature review, materials/methods, discussion/conclusion)?  

YES  NO

Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field?  

YES  NO

Does the student have a good understanding of the relevant literature?  

YES  NO

Does the student understand the experimental design and data interpretation?  

YES  NO

GRADE:

PASS (No revisions necessary)

CONDITIONAL PASS (See details below)

FAIL (See details below)

The evaluators will issue a passing grade if the following recommendations are met:

________________________________________________________

Student must make the recommended changes to his or her proposal by (DATE to be decided by evaluators):

Revision Approval Method (Please check one):

- Revisions can be sent by student to committee via e-mail for approval.
- Revisions are extensive, and committee must be re-convened.
- Other:  

________________________________________________________

FAIL (Proposal must be completely re-done. Exam must be re-taken.)

Comments regarding this decision:

________________________________________________________

Please return completed form to Dawn_DeCosta@hsdm.harvard.edu
Travel Reimbursement Form

The Office of Research considers funding requests from students who are traveling to present their research. Students may receive up to $500 per fiscal year (July 1-June 30) in research travel funding towards accommodations, transportation and registration fees. Reimbursements are submitted upon return of travel. Receipts or proof of payment is required and must be in your name.

Complete all fillable fields below:

Name of Student

HUID #

Research Mentor

Dates of Travel

Name of Conference or Meeting

Have you ever received a reimbursement from Harvard?  YES (WHAT YEAR?)   NO

If you have never received a reimbursement from Harvard, please see Leanne Jacobellis in REB 408 to provide her with your social security number (do not email this information).

Are you a U.S. Citizen?  YES   NO

For non-US residents, once the above information has been submitted to HCOM by the Office of Research, you will receive an email from support@onlinetax.net, an online tool to determine U.S. residency status) providing information on how to log into their program. You must complete their online forms and submit the required document to the NRA Tax Group office as indicated in the program. Your acceptance into the HCOM finance system will not complete until this is successfully completed and accepted by Harvard.

Current Mailing Address

Permanent Mailing Address

Please return completed form to Dawn_DeCosta@hsdm.harvard.edu