

Complex Doctoral Examination (Doktori szigorlat) in the Doctoral Programme in English Applied Linguistics and TEFL/TESOL

All doctoral students have to pass the Complex Doctoral Examination (CDE) after collecting all necessary credits and before the defence of their dissertation. The CDE is a prerequisite of the defence.

The aim and construct of CDE

The aim of the CDE is to assess (1) to what extent candidates have developed the necessary knowledge, skills and expertise to allow them to work as researchers in the main domains covered in the curriculum of the Doctoral Programme in English Applied Linguistics and TEFL/TESOL, (2) how they are able to present and discuss the topics covered in the curriculum, and (3) design and implement studies on their own research interest.

Candidates are assessed on (1) their academic presentation skills on recent issues in applied linguistics related to TEFL/TESOL, (2) their knowledge of the topics covered in the curriculum, including research methods in the social sciences, linguistics, and language pedagogy, (3) their critical reflections on theoretical issues and empirical studies, (4) their ability to design, conduct, and present their own research orally, and discuss related topics on the spot.

Candidates are expected to choose three topics from the list of credit courses in the curriculum. One topic from the mandatory courses (ANGP0101-ANGP0109), one from the elective ones (ANGP0110-ANGP0112), and the third topic is the candidates' own research topic (this last topic must be different from the previous ones). The topics need to be approved by the head of programme.

Timing and components

The CDE takes about 60 minutes. Candidates are expected to present their first two topics in a 10-minute oral presentation each, and the third topic in a 15-minute oral presentation. They can use slides or handouts. Each presentation is followed by 8-10-minute discussions with the examination board members.

Criteria of assessment

Candidates' performances are assessed on all three presentations separately along the same criteria: content (60%) and oral presentation skills (including academic English, 40%). The first two components are worth 25 points each (content: 15; oral presentations skills 10), whereas the third one is worth 50 (30+20, respectively). The final grade is on a 4-point scale: summa cum laude (pass with distinction), cum laude (good pass), rite (pass), insufficienter (fail).

CDE Board (*Doktori szigorlati bizottság*)

The CDE board consists of three members; one of them is an external examiner; two are tutors in the programme or other experts with a PhD in a field related to the topics. The committee is chaired by a full professor, professor emeritus or an associate professor (docens). The candidate's supervisor is not a member of the CDE board.