

## **Indigenous Peoples Law & Policy Programs Dissertation Guide**

Students enrolling in the Indigenous Peoples Law & Policy SJD Program must complete the following courses as part of their 24-unit, one-year course study:

- Federal Indian Law
- International Human Rights, or International Human Rights and Indigenous Peoples

International IPLP SJD students also need to take the following two courses:

- Introduction to the U.S. Legal System
- Legal Writing, Analysis, and Research

After the year in-residence, students enroll in dissertation status. Students have up to three years after finishing their year in-residence to complete their dissertation.

SJD students must have a designated Faculty Dissertation Committee Chair determined by the end of their year in-residence. The remaining Faculty Dissertation Committee Members must be determined by the end of the student's first year in dissertation status. A minimum of three (3) committee members is required, and no more than a total of five (5) committee members are permitted. The minimum and maximum include the Chair.

### **Final Oral Dissertation Defense Examination**

Students must have a complete draft of their dissertation reviewed and approved by all members of their Dissertation Committee before a dissertation defense will be scheduled. A complete draft includes all chapters and supporting material, such as table of contents, end/footnotes, tables, maps, illustrations, references, and bibliography. The Dissertation Committee commonly requires multiple revisions before approving the defense; few dissertations gain approval with the first complete draft. Students should allow time for revisions when planning for final submission and for graduation. Once the Dissertation Committee agrees the full draft of the dissertation meets the required standards of scholarship, the defense can be scheduled.

The defense must be scheduled and passed by November 15 for students intending to graduate in December and by April 15 for students intending to graduate in May. Students who do not meet the April deadline will not be allowed to participate in May commencement. No defenses will be scheduled in the summer (between the last official day of classes for the spring semester and the first official day of classes for the fall semester).

The exact time and place of the oral defense will be scheduled using the Announcement of Oral Defense form, which must be obtained from and filed with the IPLP Program Coordinator at least two weeks prior to the date of the defense. The student must provide the necessary information to the IPLP Program Coordinator so that the Program Coordinator can publically announce the defense.

The defense includes an oral examination in defense of the dissertation, as well as any general questioning which may develop related to the field of study. The examination is conducted by the Faculty Dissertation Committee and consists of two parts: (1) A presentation by the candidate of the dissertation in the first hour, which is open to the public. The presentation should be approximately 30-35 minutes, leaving sufficient time for questions from the audience. (2) A closed meeting of the Faculty Dissertation Committee and the candidate, where faculty pose questions pertinent to the dissertation and the general field of study.

An overall Pass for the defense requires three (3) passing votes, or a majority (51%) of passing votes if the Faculty Dissertation Committee is larger than three (3) members. Failure may result in termination of the degree program, or an option for the student to re-defend (at least one month after the failed defense), at the discretion of the Faculty Dissertation Committee. All actions of the Faculty Dissertation Committee regarding degree termination or re-defense require a 51% majority vote, with a minimum consensus of three (3) votes.

## Dissertation Elements

The required elements of the dissertation include a few principles to follow. Please review the information below when you are preparing your dissertation.

### **Required Pages**

Page 1 – Title Page (If you are filing for copyright, include the copyright notice under your name as the author. If you are not copyrighting, do not include this notice.)

Page 2 – Committee Approval Page (to be obtained from the IPLP Program Coordinator)

Page 3 – Statement by Author with Copyright<sup>1</sup> Or Page 3 – Statement by Author without Copyright<sup>2</sup>

Table of Contents

List of Figures/Illustrations and Tables (if applicable)

Abstract – You must include your abstract prior to the first chapter of the dissertation.

### **Formatting**

Minimum 150 pages (approximately 50,000 words)

Fonts – 12 point, standard serif font.

Spacing – Double-spaced.

---

#### <sup>1</sup> STATEMENT BY AUTHOR

This dissertation has been submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for an advanced degree at the University of Arizona and is deposited in the University College of Law Library to be made available to borrowers under rules of the Library.

Brief quotations from this dissertation are allowable without special permission, provided that an accurate acknowledgement of the source is made. Requests for permission for extended quotation from or reproduction of this manuscript in whole or in part may be granted by the copyright holder.

SIGNED: Type your name here

#### <sup>2</sup> STATEMENT BY AUTHOR

This dissertation has been submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for an advanced degree at the University of Arizona and is deposited in the University College of Law Library to be made available to borrowers under rules of the Library.

Brief quotations from this dissertation are allowable without special permission, provided that an accurate acknowledgement of the source is made. Requests for permission for extended quotation from or reproduction of this manuscript in whole or in part may be granted by the head of the Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy Program at the College of Law when in his or her judgment the proposed use of the material is in the interests of scholarship. In all other instances, however, permission must be obtained from the author.

SIGNED: Type your name here

Margins – Please use margins appropriate for binding, 1” at the top and bottom and 1.5” on the left.

Page Numbers – Page numbers should appear on all pages (although the title page does not need to display its page number). The Title Page is considered page 1.

Citations – You should use the citation style appropriate for your discipline, following the guidance of your committee.

### **Filing for Copyright**

Your dissertation is your own intellectual property; however, you may choose to file a copyright with the Library of Congress to secure additional legal protection. For information about copyrighting, please visit <https://copyright.columbia.edu/>.