

## **FSoS PhD Dissertation Data Analysis & Results Review (Optional and Recommended)**

### **Purpose & Description**

The purpose of the FSoS PhD Dissertation **Data Analysis & Results Review** is to seek feedback and gain approval for the dissertation analyses by committee members before the dissertation defense. This optional event is meant to aid the student in their analyses before finalizing their results that will be presented at the dissertation defense. Based on the timing and scope, the candidate will submit their methods and results sections to committee members for review. Feedback can be shared with the candidate individually via email or together in a meeting. Careful planning is imperative so that candidates have time to address recommendations before sending their dissertation to committee members for their final defense exam.

Corrections to already completed analyses or requests for additional analyses may be made by committee members at this time. The candidate is expected to complete those corrections/requests before submitting their dissertation to committee members for the final defense.

Analysis recommendations at the final defense that were not suggested at the data analysis meeting should not be used to: 1) prevent a candidate from passing their defense, 2) justify a 'pass with reservations' decision, 3) prevent a candidate from submitting their dissertation to the graduate school. However, this does not apply if recommendations that were made during the data analysis and results review meeting were not incorporated by the candidate, e.g., adding covariates or models not previously discussed. Analysis recommendations at the defense should be suggestions for candidates to consider as they prepare their papers for journal submission.

**Note:** It is acceptable if analyses do not yield significant results. If the analyses are conducted correctly, students should not be advised to try different variables to seek significant results.

### **Process & Timing**

Depending on the analyses involved in the dissertation, the timing of this meeting and the scope of what is presented will vary; these decisions will be made by the candidate and their advisor(s). We recommend that this meeting take place at least **2 months** before the final defense to allow for ample time for changes to be made to the analysis and dissertation manuscript. For two-study dissertations, data analyses and results may be submitted consecutively or concurrently, depending on when feedback is most

beneficial. We recommend that candidates present as much of their completed analyses as is feasible.

**Note:** A meeting with all committee members will facilitate communication and agreement among the group. If individual feedback is sent and committee members' recommendations are in conflict, the candidate should consult with their advisor about how to resolve them.

### **Documentation**

It is recommended that within two weeks after the review, the advisor shares a written summary of committee members' recommendations with the candidate.