

**The following information must be submitted to the evaluation committee in connection with a thesis defence at the NSSS:**

**Expectations of opponents in connection with a thesis defence:**

- Please refer to Section 19, *The doctoral examination*, pp. 18 – 20.
- The thesis defence and the trial lecture are held on the same day.
- All thesis defences in Norway are open to the public. Thesis defences at NSSS are held in an auditorium with the public in attendance.
- The candidate first presents a summary of the thesis.
- The committee must be in attendance at both the trial lecture and the defence.
- It is recommended that committee members living outside of Oslo arrive the evening prior to the defence.
- If possible, the section invites the committee to dinner in the evening prior to the defence.
- The rector invites the committee members, head of section and supervisor to morning coffee and lunch at his/her office on the day of the defence.
- It is usual for the candidate to hold a doctoral dinner for the committee, family, friends and colleagues on the evening of the defence. The committee will normally receive an invitation to dinner in advance of the defence.
- Trial lecture:
  - The chair of the committee has the main responsibility for preparing a draft of the examination text for the trial lecture. The committee must agree on the final version of the examination text. The topic of the trial lecture must not be the same or closely related to the topic of the thesis. The topic should preferably address key issues in the field which are of general interest, i.e. “an imagined, enlightened, educated public”, in this setting to be understood as “an audience of sport scientists and physical education/sports students from higher level studies”.
  - The chair of the committee forwards the examination text to NSSS no later than three weeks prior to the defence.
  - In connection with the trial lecture, the committee may prepare two questions that may be posed to the candidate if time allows.
- Preparation of the opposition:
  - The opposition is held in a friendly but critical atmosphere.
  - It is important to highlight both the positive and negative aspects of the thesis.
  - The opponents may use a PowerPoint presentation, if desired.
  - The first and second opponents must decide between themselves which parts of the thesis/articles they each will discuss.
- As a general rule, each opponent has one hour for discussion.