

Protocol: S.T.L. *Lectio Coram*

1. The *praeses* convenes the Board of Examiners at the previously determined time.
2. The *praeses* introduces the candidate and members of the Board. He/she announces the topic of the *Lectio* and instructs the candidate concerning procedure and time allocations, specifically:
 - a. the candidate lectures for 45 minutes on the predetermined topic;
 - b. each member of the Board may question the candidate for **10 minutes** upon completion of the lecture;
 - c. (at the discretion of the *praeses*, follow-up questions from Board members may be permitted **after** all examiners have questioned the candidate;)
 - d. the *praeses* monitors time allocations *strictly* and announces their completion to the candidate and Board members, and
 - e. the *Lectio Coram* and questioning **must continue for but not exceed one and one-half hours.**
3. Upon completion of the lecture and examination by the Board, members adjourn to discuss and grade the candidate's defense of the thesis. By secret ballot, each Board member assigns a letter grade and submits it to the *praeses* to record on the *Licentiate in Sacred Theology Examination* form. All examiners sign this form and reconvene in the lecture room where the *praeses* announces **only the results of the *Lectio*** (successful/unsuccessful) to the candidate and attending guests. (During the Board's absence, the candidate may entertain questions from guests in attendance. Clearly, these questions have no influence on the grade assigned by the Board.)

The praeses is responsible for the immediate completion and submission of all documents associated with the Lectio Coram to the Academic Dean.

The Registrar or Academic Dean posts a public notice within 24 hours congratulating the candidate if the defense is successful. The Dean and Registrar compute the *lectio coram* grade (20%) relative to the candidate's *tesina* grade (20%) and S.T.L. coursework (60%) to determine what if any honors apply according to the standards outlined in the Academic Catalog. Honors, if applicable, may be announced when the degree is conferred at graduation.