

# Group B5

## Qualifying Exam and Dissertation

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# Purpose of Exams

The purpose of the exams is to determine whether the student has achieved sufficient expertise in his/her field to be considered for candidacy for degree. In particular, the exams will indicate the student's mastery of the methods and literature required for the writing of a successful dissertation.

# What type of exams shall be given and when?

Prior to taking the dissertation preparation seminar each student will take a comprehensive exam (written and oral) that covers the core courses and the selected concentration.

Written exams (3)

- Core seminars

- Concentration

- Application/Research methods

One oral exam based on written exams

Advisor/program director will certify international experience.

# Evaluating Exams

- A committee of three graduate faculty will be assigned for each exam to evaluate students' exams and score each as pass/fail.
- Students are allowed to retake each exam one time.

# Who is a Ph.D. candidate?

A candidate for degree is defined as a student who has successfully completed the comprehensive written and oral exams and completed the dissertation preparation seminar with an approved dissertation prospectus.

# Dissertation Committee Structure

The dissertation committee will be appointed by the student and his/her dissertation chair.

The dissertation committee will consist of a minimum of three qualified faculty, one being the major professor.

This committee will evaluate the dissertation prospectus and dissertation defense.

# Dissertation Defense

- Public prospectus defense
- Public dissertation defense
- Announcements must be posted three weeks prior to defense.