

3.7.1 Nature of Examination

The Candidacy Examination shall be a written and/or oral examination that must be taken by the student after (1) completing the course work in his/her Program of Study; (2) satisfying the language requirement, if any; (3) obtaining a CWAG of "1.75" or better in his/her course work; and (4) completing the courses stipulated by the Residence Rules (See 3.10), if applicable. The Candidacy Examination shall aim to test the student's mastery of the discipline/area acquired in the Program of Study.

Students enrolled in an Interdisciplinary Program who are also taking the Candidacy Examination must have taken 6-9 units of cognate courses in each area identified in his/her Program of Study.

3.7.2 Candidacy Examination Committee

The Candidacy Examination Committee shall consist of a minimum of three (3) regular full-time faculty members with doctoral degrees, except in meritorious cases. Master's degree holders may serve as examiners in doctoral candidacy examinations only in highly meritorious cases and upon approval by the Dean/Director.

Professorial Lecturers and Professors Emeritus may serve as examiners provided they are doctoral degree holders and/or known experts in their field and have taught in the unit during the last two (2) years.

3.7.3 Administration

The Program Adviser/Committee shall recommend to the Dean/Director, through channels, when to administer the Candidacy Examination. The examination shall be administered by the Graduate Office at intervals of at least two (2) days in the officially designated examination room with the approval of the Dean upon the recommendation of the Graduate Committee.

The result must be officially reported by the examination committee to the Dean/Director, through channels, not later than two weeks after the examination is administered.

3.7.4 Rating

The grades for the comprehensive examination are as follows: "High Pass," "Pass," or "Fail."

If a student fails the Candidacy Examination, a second examination shall

be allowed within one (1) year after the first examination. Failure to pass this second examination shall bar the student permanently from the doctoral program.

Moreover, the student shall be disqualified from admission into other doctoral programs within the same Department.

3.7.5 Advancement to Doctoral Candidacy

A student who passes the Candidacy Examination advances to candidacy for the doctoral degree.

Doctoral Dissertation

3.8.1 Standards for the Doctoral Dissertation

The doctoral dissertation shall (1) embody an original, independent, significant, scientific research or creative work; (2) show the student's capacity to make a critical evaluation of previous work done in his/her chosen research topic; and (3) demonstrate his/her ability to present research findings in a clear, systematic, and scholarly manner.

3.8.2 The Dissertation Committee

Upon advancement to candidacy, the student shall be assigned a dissertation committee composed of the Adviser and two (2) Readers. In special cases requiring joint advising, the Dissertation Committee may consist of an Adviser, a Co-Adviser, and a Reader.

The Dissertation Committee shall consist of full-time regular faculty members with doctoral degrees, except in highly-meritorious cases (See 1.2.1.). Either the adviser or the co-adviser shall belong to the College/unit where the student is enrolled. The Co-Adviser and one of the Readers may belong to an external institution (i.e., an academic institution or qualified agency outside the College). A Professorial Lecturer or Professor Emeritus may serve as Co-Adviser. For an interdisciplinary program, majority of the Committee members must come from the University.

The Dissertation Committee members shall be appointed by the Dean/Director upon the recommendation of the heads of the Institute, Department or Interdisciplinary Program concerned and/or Graduate Office.