

CSE PhD Oral Qualifying Exam (OQE) Verification Form

1. Evaluate the student's portfolio

Average points from 3 committee members (1 to 3 points):*

2. Evaluate the student's written & oral communication

Average points from 3 committee members (1 to 3 points):*

3. Evaluate the student's depth of understanding of the area (reading list)

Average points from 3 committee members (1 to 3 points):*

Accumulating 6 points in 3 sections above constitutes passing grade.

PhD student's Name:

Date:

Graduate Advisor:

Committee Member 2:

Committee Member 3:

Director of Graduate Studies:

* Below Expectations (1 pt), Meets Expectations (2 pts), Exceeds Expectations (3 pts)

Instructions

Evaluating the student's portfolio

Example Content: *Survey, Paper, Tech Report + Software*

Examples of 'Meets Expectations': *Ability to criticize existing work, Ability to identify open questions*

Evaluating the student's written & oral communication

Written portion: *A sample of the writing in student's portfolio.*

Oral portion: *Presentation given by the student to the committee on the portfolio.*

Examples of 'Meets Expectations': *Ability to clearly convey ideas, concepts, challenges, and solutions*

Evaluating the student's depth of understanding of the area (reading list)

Example Content: *Reading list of 3-6 papers assigned by all three committee members (1-2 papers from each member). If 2-3 committee members agree, their joint contribution to reading list can be replaced by a PhD Thesis.*

Examples of 'Meets Expectations': *Has a grasp of the papers sufficient to demonstrate their ability to use the papers' insights or technical content in their own work.*

OQE format

The student presentation part of the OQE is open to public audience. This part is limited to at most 30 minutes. The question-answer session that follows is performed as closed session; the audience leaves, and the OQE committee examines the student about the student's portfolio and the reading list. The OQE in total is limited to at most 90 minutes.

In terms of failure

Every student has two chances to pass the Oral Qualifying Exam (OQE). A student gets another try in the next semester. So, in order to give student a chance to complete OQE before deadline, it is recommended that a fresh PhD admit attempts the first OQE no later than the 5th semester, and an M.S. to PhD admit attempts to take the first OQE no later than the 6th semester of graduate study.