Department of English

University of Washington

PhD Oral Examination Assessment Form

Date:

Student’s Name:

Committee Member:

The qualifying exam has two, closely inter-related aims:

* To demonstrate broad reading in a field or interlocking fields of study, and an understanding of defining issues and debates within that (those) field(s); and
* To explore and develop a research focus, situate its core question(s) and methodologies, and articulate its stakes, which will carry through to prospectus and the dissertation.

In this framework, please evaluate the following components of the exam. For each question, your answer should specify whether the student met the expectation very well, satisfactorily, marginally, or unsatisfactorily.

An affirmative answer (the student met this expectation very well, or in a satisfactory manner) to at least 3 of the 4 questions posed below should be construed as constituting a passing result. A negative reply (the student met this expectation only marginally, or unsatisfactorily) to 2 or more of these questions would be a basis for requiring re-examination.

1. To what extent did the oral examination demonstrate the student’s ability to engage with committee members’ questions on the components of the written exam? Was the student able to explain the choice of their objects and methods of analysis? Were they able to articulate, defend, and/or revise their claims, drawing on a range of appropriate evidence?
   * Very well
   * Satisfactorily
   * Marginally
   * Unsatisfactorily
2. Specifically, in the discussion of their syllabi (or website or exhibit), to what extent did the student demonstrate that they are prepared to teach in their fields (whether in the classroom or in other public-facing contexts)?
   * Very well
   * Satisfactorily
   * Marginally
   * Unsatisfactorily
3. Specifically, in the discussion of their research statement, to what extent did the student demonstrate the ability to discuss the directions of their research inquiry and to respond to suggestions and concerns?
   * Very well
   * Satisfactorily
   * Marginally
   * Unsatisfactorily
4. Insofar as the conversation in the oral went beyond vetting the contents of the written exam, did the student show an ability to consider and engage questions regarding their fields and research interests more broadly?
   * Very well
   * Satisfactorily
   * Marginally
   * Unsatisfactorily

**Overall Assessment**:

* **Pass**
  + Student has demonstrated their preparation to teach and conduct dissertation research in their fields
  + Student is encouraged to proceed with studies leading to the doctoral degree
* **Re-examination**
  + Student has not satisfactorily demonstrated their preparation to teach and conduct dissertation research in their fields
  + Student must be reexamined after a further period of study before proceeding to the dissertation
  + NB: The oral general examination may be retaken once; if a student does not pass on their second attempt, then the result is termination from the program

***\*\*THIS SECTION SHALL ONLY BE USED IF A STUDENT IS RE-TAKING THE ORAL EXAM\*\****

NB: The oral general examination may be retaken once. If this is the student’s second attempt to pass the oral exam, then the options for Overall Assessment are:

* **Pass**
  + Student has demonstrated their preparation to teach and conduct dissertation research in their fields
  + Student is encouraged to proceed with studies leading to the doctoral degree
* **Fail**
  + Student has not satisfactorily demonstrated their preparation to teach and conduct dissertation research in their fields
  + The candidate is not recommended for further work towards the doctoral degree. The effect of this recommendation is termination of the student’s enrollment in the doctoral program.