

FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION/DISSERTATION DEFENSE

Status: Interim (Effective: May 9, 2018)

Once the student has made sufficient progress (as judged by the dissertation committee) on his/her dissertation to warrant holding the Final Oral Examination (Dissertation Defense), the student electronically submits an Application for Final Examination to the Graduate School via <http://gradforms.osu.edu> at least two weeks prior to the actual Final Oral Examination. At this time, the student circulates the dissertation draft to his/her dissertation committee and submits the draft to the Graduate School to review the format (see the Graduate School website for format guidelines and submission instructions). The Final Examination Committee (FEC), consisting of the dissertation committee and a graduate faculty representative, then conducts and grades the Oral Examination. The entire exam will last for two hours, which consists of two-components: (1) a public seminar-style 45-minute presentation of his/her dissertation research followed by questions/answers for up to 15-minutes, and (2) a close-session of questions and answers, and deliberation by the FEC. The student is considered to have completed the Oral Examination successfully only when the decision of the FEC is unanimously affirmative. After passing the Oral Exam, the student revises the dissertation document to the dissertation committee's satisfaction, verifies that all dissertation committee members have approved the electronic Report on Final Document, and submits the final dissertation document to the Graduate School (see the Graduate School website for submission instructions). The student must pass the Final Oral Examination and submit a final, approved copy of the dissertation to the Graduate School within five years of being admitted to candidacy.