

M.S. Thesis & Defense Exam Rubric Evaluation

Candidate Name: _____

Date: _____

Thesis Title: _____

Evaluation/Guidance		Needs Significant Improvement	Needs Improvement	Acceptable	Very Good	Excellent
1. Problem Definition: Has stated the research problem clearly, providing motivation for undertaking the research						
2. Literature and Previous Work: Demonstrates sound knowledge of literature in the area, and of prior work on the specific research problem						
3. Impact of Research: Demonstrates the potential value of solution to the research problem in advancing knowledge within the area of study						
4. Solution Plan: Has applied sound state-of-the-field research methods/tools to solving the defined problem and has described the methods/tools effectively						
5. Results: Analyzed and interpreted research results/data effectively						
6. Quality of Written and Oral Communication: Communicates research proposal clearly and professionally in both (a) written form and (b) oral form	(a)					
	(b)					
7. Quality of Response to Questions completeness, organization of argument, subject area of study and expertise in the area						
8. Critical Thinking: Has demonstrated capability for independent research in the area of study, and expertise in the area						
9. Broader Impact: Demonstrates awareness of broader implications of the proposed research. Broader implications may include social, economic, technical, ethical, business, etc. aspects.						
10. Publications: Journal or conference publications have resulted (or anticipated) from this research						

Overall Assessment: The assessment of the overall performance of the candidate based on the evidence provided in items 1 –10 above.

CRITERIA	PERFORMANCE RATINGS				
	Does NOT PASS	Passes MS Defense Exam			
OVERALL, my rating of the PERFORMANCE	Needs Significant Improvement	Needs Improvement	Acceptable	Very Good	Excellent

Name of the Examining Committee Member: _____

Signature of the Examining Committee Member: _____

Please report additional comments on the backside of this page.