



Ph.D. Qualifying Examination Evaluation Rubric

Part 1: Background and Data Presentation			
	Check one box for each component		
Component	Excellent	Proficient	Deficient
Background	<input type="checkbox"/> Succinct and informative summary of the field	<input type="checkbox"/> Adequate summary of the field	<input type="checkbox"/> Uninformative
Hypothesis/Question	<input type="checkbox"/> Relevant to background and testable	<input type="checkbox"/> Adequately interesting	<input type="checkbox"/> Not well related to background and/or unclear
Data Presentation	<input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate selection, critical evaluation, clear contextual relevance	<input type="checkbox"/> Adequate relevance to question/hypothesis	<input type="checkbox"/> Unclear relevance to question and little critical evaluation
Summary/Conclusions	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear distinction between data summary and conclusions and their relationship to original idea	<input type="checkbox"/> Reasonable summary of data and conclusions and adequate critical evaluation	<input type="checkbox"/> Blurred distinction between summary and conclusions; no attempt to relate to original idea
Part 2: Proposal for Extension of the Presented Work			
Component	Excellent	Proficient	Deficient
Hypothesis/Question	<input type="checkbox"/> New or modified idea displaying originality and testability	<input type="checkbox"/> Reasonable idea or revision of hypothesis or question	<input type="checkbox"/> Obvious extension of idea behind the presented work
Specific Aims	<input type="checkbox"/> Several approaches, good controls, sophisticated ideas or methodology	<input type="checkbox"/> Adequate methods and details to address question	<input type="checkbox"/> Limited breadth, superficial description of methods
Part 3: Fielding Questions			
Component	Excellent	Proficient	Deficient
General Responses	<input type="checkbox"/> Answers questions clearly and appropriately	<input type="checkbox"/> Answers some questions clearly and appropriately	<input type="checkbox"/> Answers few questions clearly and appropriately
Knowledge in Basic Cell and Molecular Biology	<input type="checkbox"/> Superior depth of understanding	<input type="checkbox"/> Adequate understanding	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor understanding
Knowledge related to Methods	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear and confident understanding of methods and their limitations	<input type="checkbox"/> Adequate understanding of methods related to presentation	<input type="checkbox"/> Superficial understanding of methods and their limitations
Knowledge Related to Selectives and Rotations	<input type="checkbox"/> Superior depth of knowledge relevant to rotations and courses	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate understanding of course material	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor understanding of course material
Use reverse side for additional comments and suggestions			