

EVALUATION RUBRIC: Masters (M.A.) Thesis Defense Exam

Candidate Name: _____ Evaluator Name: _____ Date: _____

Thesis Title: _____

Check one for each criterion & provide comments					
Criteria for Evaluation	Unsatisfactory	Marginal	Satisfactory	Very Good	Outstanding
1. Problem Definition: Clearly stated the research question and provided a coherent and compelling justification of the research					
2. Literature and Previous Work: Demonstrated sound knowledge of literature in the area, and of prior work on the specific research question					
3. Impact of Proposed Research: Demonstrated the potential value of research to advancing knowledge within the area of study					
4. Approach: Has applied appropriate research design/methods to approach the defined problem and has described the design/methods effectively					
5. Results: Analyzed and interpreted research results/data effectively					
6. Quality of Written Communication: Communicates research findings clearly and professionally in written form					

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Criteria for Evaluation	Unsatisfactory	Marginal	Satisfactory	Very Good	Outstanding
7. Quality of Oral Communication: Communicates research findings clearly and professionally in oral form					
8. Critical Thinking: Has demonstrated capability for articulating and interrogating key problems and approaches in the field					
9. Broader Impact: Demonstrates awareness of broader implications of the concluded research. Broader implications may include social, economic, technical, ethical, business, etc. aspects.					

Overall Assessment: Overall performance based on the evidence provided in items 1 – 9 above.

	Does NOT PASS thesis defense	PASSES thesis defense			
	Unsatisfactory	Marginal	Satisfactory	Very Good	Outstanding
OVERALL Rating of the thesis:					

Overall Comments: