Research Methodology

Lecture 5: Qualifying Exam

Professor: Dr. Libertario Demi
libertario.demi@unitn.it
The Qualifying Exam

https://ict.unitn.it/enrolled-student/phd-career/qualifying-exam

Purpose:

• Evaluation of the student
The Qualifying Exam

https://ict.unitn.it/enrolled-student/phd-career/qualifying-exam

Purpose:

• Evaluation of the student
• Provide early warnings
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• Evaluation of the student
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• Practice on scientific presentations
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Purpose:

- Evaluation of the student
- Provide early warnings
- Practice on scientific presentations

What is expected from the student

- A research proposal of max 10 pages (including references)
The Qualifying Exam

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Purpose:

• Evaluation of the student
• Provide early warnings
• Practice on scientific presentations

What is expected from the student

• A research proposal of max 10 pages (including references)
• Written with a specific style https://www.acm.org/publications/proceedings-template, and that you will have to upload through Easychair
The Qualifying Exam

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Purpose:

• Evaluation of the student
• Provide early warnings
• Practice on scientific presentations

What is expected from the student

• A research proposal of max 10 pages (including references)
• Written with a specific style https://www.acm.org/publications/proceedings-template, and that you will have to upload through Easychair
• Prepare a presentation (20 minutes max)
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What is expected from the advisor:

• Support in the writing and production of the research proposal
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What is expected from the advisor:

• Support in the writing and production of the research proposal
• Submission of an evaluation on the PhD student
The Qualifying Exam

What is expected from the advisor:

- Support in the writing and production of the research proposal
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What is expected from the Examination Committee:

- Evaluate the research proposal

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What is expected from the advisor:

- Support in the writing and production of the research proposal
- Submission of an evaluation on the PhD student

What is expected from the Examination Committee:

- Evaluate the research proposal
- Evaluate the presentation, and the capability of the student to answer the questions from the committee
The Qualifying Exam

[Link to information]

What is expected from the advisor:

- Support in the writing and production of the research proposal
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What is expected from the Examination Committee:

- Evaluate the research proposal
- Evaluate the presentation, and the capability of the student to answer the questions from the committee
- Express an assessment to the Executive Committee/Doctoral School Committee:
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  o Pass
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- Evaluate the research proposal
- Evaluate the presentation, and the capability of the student to answer the questions from the committee
- Express an assessment to the Executive Committee/Doctoral School Committee:
  - Pass
  - Retry (-> revision and further assessments are needed and due within 3 months and with a different committee). You can have a retry only once.
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• Support in the writing and production of the research proposal
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What is expected from the Examination Committee:

• Evaluate the research proposal
• Evaluate the presentation, and the capability of the student to answer the questions from the committee
• Express an assessment to the Executive Committee/Doctoral School Committee:
  o Pass
  o Retry (→ revision and further assessments are needed and due within 3 months and with a different committee). You can have a retry only once.
  o Fail, the committee proposes exclusion from the school
The Qualifying Exam

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The Qualifying Exam session in October of each year:
The Qualifying Exam

https://ict.unitn.it/enrolled-student/phd-career/qualifying-exam

The Qualifying Exam session is in October of each year:

By the **beginning of September** students must:
- register in EasyChair at the address included in the instructions sent by the Secretariat
- Insert the **title, abstract** (max 150 words) of their research proposal
The Qualifying Exam

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The Qualifying Exam session in in October of each year:

By the **beginning of September** students must:
- register in Easychair at the address included in the instructions sent by the Secretariat
- Insert the **title, abstract** (max 150 words) of their research proposal

By the **beginning of October** students must:
- Prepare and submit (through Easychair) the research proposal (maximum of 10 pages in ACM two-column style), which should comprise:
  1. **review of the state of the art** in the area
  2. description of the **research goals**
  3. **preliminary results**
  4. **planning of the future activities** towards finalizing the PhD research
Those PhD students who fail to submit a research proposals that meets the requirements according to the evaluation by the Examination Committee will not be admitted to the public presentation before the Committee.

-> RETRY session
The Qualifying Exam

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Those PhD students who fail to submit a research proposals that meets the requirements according to the evaluation by the Examination Committee will not be admitted to the public presentation before the Committee.

-> RETRY session

Remember, deadlines are hard deadlines
The Final Exam

https://ict.unitn.it/enrolled-student/phd-career/final-exam

During your last year, apply for admission to the final examination
The Final Exam

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During your last year, **apply for admission** to the final examination

When admitted by the Doctoral School Committee, submit your thesis for evaluation to **two external referees**
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During your last year, **apply for admission** to the final examination

When admitted by the Doctoral School Committee, submit your thesis for evaluation to **two external referees**

Both referees will propose either ***admission to the final examination/PhD defence or resubmission of the thesis*** (you have no longer ***than six months*** to resubmit a new version of the thesis **plus a rebuttal letter**)**
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In any case the student is admitted to the final examination
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For admission a minimum of 3-month research period abroad is mandatory (in case of a written justification from the Advisor exceptions are possible)
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PhD students from cycle 32 onwards must have completed at least two ISI - or SCOPUS indexed publications as well
The Final Exam

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When admitted by the Doctoral School Committee, submit your thesis for evaluation to **two external referees**.

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The Final Exam

**DEADLINES FOR PHD STUDENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Request for admission to the final examination and for the award of the label “Doctor Europaeus”</td>
<td>By 10 September 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Submission of the thesis and of a report on the PhD activities</td>
<td>By 31 January 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Delivery of the final version of the thesis to the final examination committee</td>
<td>No later than 10 days before the date of the final examination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Upload of the final version of thesis and of the Deposit Disclaimer</td>
<td>No later than 10 days before the date of the final examination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Delivery of the abstract of the final version of the thesis</td>
<td>No later than 10 days before the date of the final examination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Return of the university computer</td>
<td>On the day of the final examination</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>By 31 October 2019</td>
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</table>

For those PhD students who obtained a period of suspension during their PhD Programme, all deadlines concerning their final examination will be postponed for the same period of their suspension. The ICT School Secretariat will send them all new deadlines.
A **public discussion** were the candidate presents his/her thesis (around 40 minutes), followed by questions from the committee (around 20-30 minutes).

The defence is open to the public.

In the case of negative judgement by the final examination committee, the PhD student is excluded from the Doctoral Programme.
End of lecture 5