

I. Research Report Examination (Comp 897)

a. What is the purpose of the Research Report Examination?

To demonstrate that the student has experience performing supervised research and is ready to conduct independent research. The student is expected to pass the Research Report Examination **by the end of their third year in the program**. This exam cannot be taken until all coursework has been completed at both campuses.

b. What is the format of this examination?

This examination shall consist of a research project supervised by a faculty mentor. The student will be required to prepare a written report of research work performed and its results, and offer an oral presentation before the members of the Doctoral Committee. The student must submit a journal paper manuscript based on their research exam report before giving the oral presentation to the Doctoral Committee.

c. Who should be present at the presentation?

The oral presentation is presented to the JDP Committee consisting of five (5) members: the primary Doctoral Advisor (from either UCI or SDSU), a Co-advisor (from the campus where the primary advisor is not a faculty member), 2 other faculty members affiliated with the program (1 from the campus where the primary advisor is a faculty member and 1 from the other campus). A fifth faculty member from UCI but not affiliated with the program will be appointed, to serve on a five-person Doctoral Committee.

d. What other requirements are there for this examination?

- i. **The written report must be received by each member of the JDP Committee and the Computational Science Program Directors at least two weeks before the scheduled exam.**
- ii. The student must have his/her research project and results written up in a paper submitted for publication at the time of the Research Report Examination. If a peer-reviewed published or submitted paper is used as part of this report it must be supplemented with a complete description of the work that was performed by the student (rather than co-authors or advisors).
- iii. The appropriate form entitled "Report of the Research Report Examination for the Degree of Doctoral of Philosophy" (JDP3) must be completed and submitted to SDSU Graduate and Research Affairs and to UCI Graduate Division.
- iv. **The JDP3 form must be approved by both universities at least one (1) term prior to the Dissertation Proposal/Advancement to Candidacy.**

II. Dissertation Proposal/Advancement to Candidacy (Comp 897)

a. What is the Dissertation Proposal?

The Dissertation Proposal should take the form of a scientific grant proposal to a major funding agency. The Proposal must describe the research project that the student intends to carry out and upon which their Doctoral Dissertation will be based. The student will make a presentation based on the Dissertation, highlighting their preliminary results and the work that they will complete. The Dissertation Proposal should be completed in sufficient time to allow the research to be completed, and will describe the research that will be performed. Students must submit a Dissertation Proposal to the Doctoral Committee **by the end of their fourth year in the program.**

b. Who should attend the presentation?

All members of the JDP Committee should be present; other faculty members, staff and students of the Computational Science Research Center, and the public, are invited to attend.

c. What other requirements are there for the Dissertation Proposal?

- i. **A copy of the Dissertation Proposal must be received by each member of the JDP Committee and the Computational Science Program Directors at least two weeks before the scheduled presentation.**
- ii. After successful completion of the Dissertation Proposal, the student will be recommended for Advancement to Candidacy at both campuses. The appropriate form entitled “Report of the Dissertation Proposal/Advancement to Candidacy for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy” (JDP4) must be completed and submitted to SDSU Graduate and Research Affairs and the “Ph.D. Form I – Advancement to Candidacy –Ph.D. Degree” form at UCI Graduate Division.
- iii. **The JDP4 form for the Ph.D. degree must be approved by both universities at least one (1) term prior to the Dissertation Defense.**

III. Dissertation Defense (Comp 899)

a. What requirements are there for the Dissertation Defense?

- i. On completion of the research, the student will prepare the Dissertation in accordance with UCI regulations.
- ii. **A final draft of the Dissertation must be received by each member of the JDP Committee and the Computational Science Program Directors at least three weeks before the final oral examination.**
- iii. The oral defense will be held on the campus of the primary faculty advisor.
- iv. The appropriate form “Report of the Final Examination and Filing of the Dissertation for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy” (JDP5) shall be submitted at SDSU Graduate and Research Affairs and the “Ph.D. Form II – Signature Page/Report on Final Examination for the Ph.D.” form at UCI Graduate Division.

b. Commencement Participation

Students will not be allowed to participate in the Commencement Ceremony until they have completed the Dissertation Defense.

NOTE: It is the responsibility of the student to understand and to follow these guidelines.