

Research Methodology

Lecture 5: Qualifying Exam

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UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO - Italy

**Department of Information Engineering
and Computer Science**

The Qualifying Exam



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L. Demi 2018/19

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

Purpose:

- Evaluation of the student

The Qualifying Exam



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Purpose:

- Evaluation of the student
- Provide early warnings

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Purpose:

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What is expected from the student

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

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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

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Purpose:

- Evaluation of the student
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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:

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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

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- 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
- Express an assessment to the Executive Committee/Doctoral School Committee:

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What is expected from the Examination Committee:

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- 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

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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:
 - 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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- 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.
 - Fail, the committee proposes exclusion from the school

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The Qualifying Exam session in in October of each year:

The Qualifying Exam



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<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

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- 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

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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

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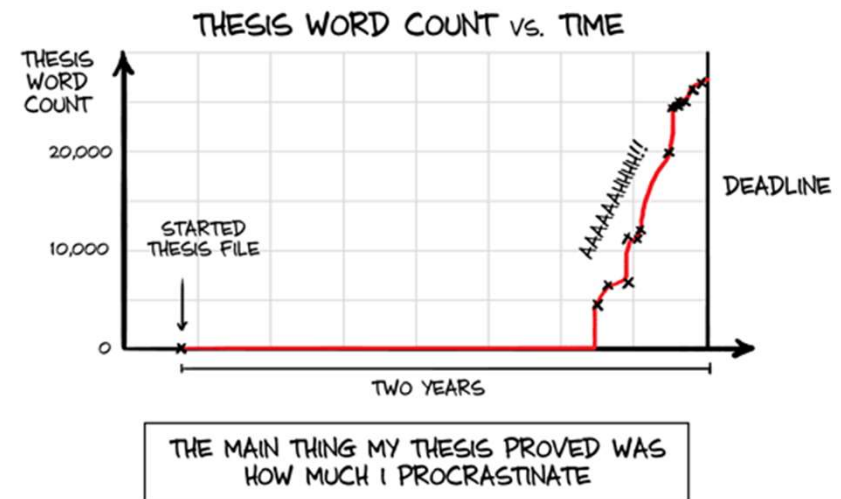
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Remember, deadlines are hard deadlines



The Final Exam



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

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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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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

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DEADLINES FOR PHD STUDENTS		
Step	Activity	Deadline
1.	Request for admission to the final examination and for the award of the label "Doctor Europaeus"	By 10 September 2018
2.	Submission of the thesis and of a report on the PhD activities	By 31 January 2019
3.	Delivery of the final version of the thesis to the final examination committee	No later than 10 days before the date of the final examination
4.	Upload of the final version of thesis and of the Deposit Disclaimer	No later than 10 days before the date of the final examination
5.	Delivery of the abstract of the final version of the thesis	No later than 10 days before the date of the final examination
6.	Return of the university computer	On the day of the final examination
7.	Final examination	By 31 October 2019

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.

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A **public discussion** where 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.



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End of lecture 5