

Ph.D. Candidacy Examination Procedures and Regulations for the Four Areas of Specialization in the Kinesiology Graduate Program

As a consequence of the Western University review of the Kinesiology Graduate program (October 2013), the procedures for the Candidacy Examinations for the individual fields of specialization in the program were amalgamated into a single procedure to be followed by all four of the fields of specialization (Integrative Biosciences in Kinesiology; Management and Leadership in Kinesiology; Psychological Basis of Kinesiology; Sociocultural Studies in Kinesiology).

The Candidacy Examination represents a “Milestone” within the program. All Doctoral students are required to successfully complete program specialization-specific Candidacy Examinations **within the first 24 months** of being admitted into the graduate program.

The Candidacy Examination in Kinesiology consists of both written and oral components. The written component will normally be completed in the student’s home, or a room scheduled by the School of Kinesiology Graduate Office. It is required that the oral component will be completed in a location scheduled by the School of Kinesiology Graduate Office..004

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Each of the Examination committee members will provide the student with direction and key reference material related to the member's area as a guide for studying (i.e., a reading list consisting of review and/or research articles, books and/or book chapters, and/or a list of specific authors who specialize in the topic). The student is expected to read these and other related articles in order to achieve an integrated understanding of the topics at a level of expertise expected for a successful outcome. It is the student's responsibility to meet with each member of the examination committee to discuss the topics and/or articles contained within the candidacy exam. It is expected that meetings will take place well in advance of the written examination. The student must demonstrate that they have met with each committee member (i.e., via email documentation) before the program.

component at the prearranged date and time.

The *oral component* will usually take place only after successful completion of the written component and usually **within one week of the written component**. Questioning during the oral examination normally will be within the agreed upon topic areas but also can extend to topics peripheral to these and/or to topics which should be considered “basic” to the understanding of the field of specialization. At the completion of the oral component the student is asked to leave the room and the Examination committee will discuss the student's performance during both the written and oral components. The outcome of the Candidacy examination (“pass/fail”) is based on a “majority” decision determined by closed vote of the Examination committee. At this time the Chair of the Candidacy Examination will invite the student back into the room and will explain the successful decision.

If the student is unsuccessful in either the written or oral components, the student will be given one additional chance at a time agreed upon by the student, the supervisor, and other members of the Examination committee (but normally not before three months). Based on the student's performance