

**Colorado School of Mines
Nuclear Science and Engineering Program**

Procedures for Ph.D. Qualifying Exams

Approved 12/3/2012

- Prior to admission to Ph.D. candidacy, the student must pass a qualifying examination in accordance with this procedure for any of the core courses or required core elective for which he or she did not receive a grade of B or better.
- A student may retake any of the core courses or required core electives once, in lieu of taking a qualifying exam. A student failing to receive a B or better on the second attempt at any core course or required core elective must then pass a qualifying examination for that course prior to admission to Ph.D. candidacy.
- The Nuclear Science and Engineering Program Director will appoint the Qualifying Exam Committee for each student taking a Qualifying Exam and identify the Chair of that Committee.
- The Qualifying Exam Committee will consist of at least three faculty members from the Nuclear Science and Engineering Program.
- For each course included in the Qualifying Exam, the Qualifying Exam Committee will include a member of the Nuclear Science and Engineering Core Faculty who has taught that class within the three years preceding the date of the exam.
- The Qualifying Exam Committee will develop, schedule, and administer the Qualifying Exam. The Committee will decide whether the exam should be oral, written, or a combination of both.
- Based on a simple majority vote, the Qualifying Exam Committee will render a pass/fail decision for each course included in the Qualifying Exam.
- The Qualifying Exam Committee will notify the Nuclear Science and Engineering Program Director of the pass/fail results for each course included in the Qualifying Exam via email, with a hard copy placed in the student's Program File.
- A student failing a Qualifying Exam for a class may retake the Qualifying Exam for that class the following semester.
- A student failing any Qualifying Exam a second time will be deemed ineligible for candidacy and dismissed from the Nuclear Engineering Ph.D. degree program.