NUS School of Computing
Graduate Studies

Examination Guidelines for PhD Oral Examination

The PhD Oral Examination comprises of an open seminar presentation, followed by a closed-door oral defence.

1. Seminar Presentation
The Seminar Presentation should take about 30-40 minutes. It will be open to both staff and students. The following is a set of brief guidelines, which can be highlighted in your presentation:

  * Objective and scope of your research project
  * Overview of research work done
  * Methodologies/framework adopted
  * New contributions made to the research area
  * Future research directions

After the presentation, a 10-minute Q&A session will be available for the public.

2. Oral Defence
A closed-door examination will take place after the seminar presentation. You are expected to answer satisfactorily any questions raised on the subject matter on your research thesis and related subjects.

This Oral Examination will be conducted by a **PhD Oral Panel** that will comprise a minimum of three members:

  (1) Chairperson (Head or nominee)
  (2) Internal Examiners
  (3) External Examiner
Note: At least 3 of the members must be present to conduct the examination.

Supervisor(s) may be present as observers, but should refrain from raising or answering questions.

Results
The results of the oral examination and any recommendation for amendments/ typographical changes will be made known to you in due course. If any serious doubts occur as a result of the oral examination, a review and re-writing of the thesis after further study and research may be recommended.

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