

Student Name: _____

Student Year: _____

RESEARCH QUALIFIER: RESEARCH SKILLS

Developing independent research skills is critical for the success of each of our students. The research qualifier is intended to examine the student's ability to formulate, investigate, and evaluate research questions independently. Students are expected to meet periodically with each member of their Research Qualifier Committee to discuss their research progress, plans, expectations, and intentions. Throughout this process the members of the qualifier committee will evaluate the student's research accomplishments, including awareness of previous work in the area, depth of insight into the problem area, adequacy of the approaches taken, as well as the substance and interpretation of results obtained.

To remain in good standing, students are required to satisfy the research qualifier prior to the end of their second year, and will typically need to meet with their committee twice before satisfying this qualifier. Independent of the outcome of a meeting, this form must be completed and signed by the members of the committee after each meeting with the student. A complete set of forms (one from each committee member, independent of outcome) must be submitted prior to the fall Black Friday of the students second year for the student to remain in good standing.

The questions included below are primarily offered as guidelines and the committee member is encouraged to use his or her own judgment and to include additional comments as needed to describe the student's academic research ability.

General Questions:

1. Provide a one sentence summary of the student's research topic.

2. Briefly describe any significant progress made by the student since your last meeting.

Specific Skill Questions:

Circle a rating between excellent and unsatisfactory to describe the student's abilities at these specific skills. Provide detailed comments to explain the evaluation and identify notable strengths or deficiencies in the student's research progress.

3. Understanding of relevant background material

Excellent

Good

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Explanation: _____

4. Level of insight into the problem area

Excellent

Good

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Explanation: _____

5. Adequacy of approaches taken

Excellent

Good

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Explanation: _____

6. Substance and interpretation of results to date

Excellent

Good

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Explanation: _____

Overall rating of research progress and skills

Excellent

Good

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Explanation: _____

This student **HAS SATISFIED** **IS MAKING PROGRESS TOWARD** the research qualifier.

Committee Member Name: _____ Date: _____

Committee Member Signature: _____