

Ph.D. Qualifying Exam Application

A student becomes eligible to take the qualifying exam after completing 24 hours of KU graduate coursework and being formally accepting into the PhD program.

If admitted from outside KU with a master's degree, a student must complete 6 hours of KU graduate coursework before taking the exam.

PhD students completing their coursework in the Fall semester must submit their application by September 15th for the next academic year.

PhD students completing their coursework in the Spring semester must submit their application by February 15 of the next academic year.

Name: _____ KUID # _____

Email: _____

Major: _____ Date Form Submitted: _____

Master's Degree: Yes No MS Institution: _____

Credit Hours Completed at KU: _____

Evidence of research ability must be submitted electronically with this form. See attachment for document description.

Ph.D. Committee: Advisor: _____

Please write one-two sentence description of your research interest: _____

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Advisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

****This application will not be accepted without the evidence of research ability document and proper signatures****

Document Description for PhD Qualifying Exam

Each PhD student must submit an “**Abstract of Research Interests**”, which provides a description and overview of the student’s interests and anticipated research direction. Some students will likely have a more detailed and specific plan than others, but this is **not** an evaluation criterion. Any specific results obtained by the student may be discussed, but evidence of substantial research progress is likewise **not** a requirement or evaluation criterion. Rather, the main purpose of the abstract is simply to introduce the oral exam committee to the scholarly interests of the student, such that conversations and questions during the exam are fairly and effectively aligned with these interests.

A secondary purpose of the abstract is to provide evidence as to the student’s ability to write effectively, and to communicate clearly and unambiguously technical content and ideas. As such, this abstract must be written and edited entirely by the student, and the student **only**. The prose must therefore be original—it cannot be copied from a published document.

This abstract will be limited to 2 pages (single spaced, 12 pt) and must be submitted **electronically** to the EECS graduate office.