



GUIDELINE FOR PREPARATION OF THESIS EXAMINER'S REPORT

GENERAL

These guidelines have been created in order to assist all Examiners in the proper assessment and evaluation of the candidature under examination for the higher degree conferred by University of Technology Sarawak.

SECTION III: SUMMATIVE COMMENTS ON WRITTEN THESIS

1. INTRODUCTION

Clear and concise description of background information/background of problems; cogent overview of conceptual and theoretical issues related to the study hypotheses; identification of problem statements and research questions; aims/objectives are clearly and coherently stated.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

- Comprehensive analysis and synthesis of critical points of knowledge, ideas and theories, resulting in themes that are concise, unbiased and relevant to the project topic;
- Review of literature is presented in logical and coherent manner;
- The work of others is acknowledged and reference accordingly;
- Source of material is up to date and comprehensive;
- Hypothesis development.

3. RESEARCH METHDOLOGY & RESEARCH FRAMEWORK

- Brief outline of the research design ;
- Choice of data and methods of collection are clearly described;
- Methods are convincingly justified against the project aims and objectives;
- Experimental design is clearly explained, and etc



4. RESULT / ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION

- Approach to analysis clearly explained and applied coherently and convincingly;
- Exhibition of original ideas as evidenced in the subject analysis and from the conclusion arrived at as a result of the research methodology
- Relevant results clearly set out and compellingly supported by appropriate evidence – qualitative and/or quantitative;
- Ability to undertake critical analysis of all data and other information collected which resulting in a descriptive and detailed dissertation/thesis
- Significance of the Issues Contained in the Analysis
 - Whether the candidate has successfully attained the objectives and end results of the research

5. DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

- Conclusions clearly stated, relevant to aims and objectives, linked to results and to course perspectives;
- Discussion on what can be strongly concluded and what is more speculative;
- Clear and realistic proposals for action based on new insights, generally informed by the forefront of a field of learning

6. THESIS FORMAT & REFERENCES

- Structure and style of the thesis makes its flow easy to take in and follow;
- Clearly written and well-argued throughout;
- Fully and correctly referenced;
- Appropriate use of graphics and diagrams

7. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- Any other comments deemed necessary and pertinent by the Examiner



SECTION B: CANDIDATURE RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation	Guidelines for Recommendation
SCALE 1: PASS	<p>The candidate is awarded a Doctor of Philosophy/Master's Degree.</p> <p>These recommendations are made if the thesis/dissertation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• does not requires revision or correction or additional experimental works or collection of new data or extensive revision.
SCALE 2: PASS with Minor Corrections	<p>The candidate is awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy/Master's, subject to amendments/corrections to the thesis as specified in the Panel of Examines Report.</p> <p>These recommendations are made if the thesis requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• additional information and data to support/overcome the minor technical errors which no additional experimental works are needed;• minor text editing, reformatting of chapters, Tables and/or Figures, revision of literature, improvement in declaration of research objectives or statements, insertion of missing references, amendment of inaccurately cited references, correction of English language and grammar, typographical mistakes, and other minor improvements;• further explanation on several short sections while the overall conclusion will not be affected. <p>The maximum duration allowed for making corrections is three (3) months.</p> <p>However, the Thesis Examination Board can determine the maximum period commensurate with the number of corrections required for the thesis of not more than one (1) year.</p> <p>The confirmation of the veracity of the corrections has to be made by the Internal Examiner and the Main Supervisor.</p>
SCALE 3: CONDITIONAL PASS with Major Corrections	<p>The candidate is awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy/Master's, subject to amendments/corrections to the thesis as specified in the Panel of Examines Report.</p> <p>These recommendations are made if the thesis requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• in-depth explanation on large body of the section in the Thesis while the overall conclusion will not be affected;



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• major revision on the data analysis which is not due to errors of the methodology/approaches applied, major improvement in description of methodology, statistical re-analysis of research data; re-discussion of results;• major editing of text, formatting of Tables and/or Figures, correction of English language and grammar, or typographical mistakes. <p>The Thesis Examination Board may recommend that the candidate to seek for assistance of an editing service if errors in grammar and syntax are extensive.</p> <p>The candidate is required to resubmit the amended thesis to the Thesis Examination Board within six (6) months from the date of first Viva Voce examination. However, the Thesis Examination Board can determine the maximum period commensurate with the number of corrections required for the thesis of not more than one (1) year.</p> <p>The candidate is required to attend the meeting with Thesis Examination Board (External Examiner or Internal Examiner or both) to clarify revision made to the Thesis.</p> <p>The thesis MUST be revised and verified by the Panel of Examiners after the candidate has made the changes/corrections.</p>
SCALE 4: RESUBMISSION of Thesis for Re- examination	<p>The candidate is required to re-submit the thesis to the Thesis Examination Board for re-examination, subject to the following conditions:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• if the candidate is required to carry out additional experimental works and data analysis for major revision of the contents of Thesis;• if the Thesis requires major revision on data analysis due to the errors of the research methodology/approach applied;• if the Thesis requires in-depth explanation on large body of the Thesis which will affect the overall conclusion;• For PhD candidate who has failed to attain sufficient academic standard for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, and the Thesis has not achieved academic merit equivalent to the level of PhD in terms of novelty, significant contribution to the body of knowledge. <p>The candidate is required to re-submit the amended thesis to the Thesis Examination Board within a period of not more than two (2) semester or one (1) year from the date of first Viva Voce examination. Failure to submit within the specified time shall result in termination of candidature.</p> <p>The candidate is required to repeat the Viva Voce.</p>



	<p>If the Thesis Examination Board is not satisfied that a sufficient standard has been achieved in the Thesis and Viva Voce (after a maximum of two (2) attempts) for the award of the relevant degree, the Board shall either:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• report that the candidate has failed;• recommend that the candidate be required to pursue a further scheme of work over a period of time as specified by the Thesis Examination Board, at the end of which the candidate may resubmit his/her Thesis for re-examination (within the maximum duration of study).
SCALE 5 : FAIL	<p>The candidate is not eligible to be awarded a Doctor of Philosophy/Master's Degree and is not allowed to resubmit the thesis for examination, subject to the following conditions:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The candidate is found guilty of plagiarism with parameters of originality exceeded the limits as approved by University;• The quality of Thesis is below acceptable standards and has substantial weakness which cannot be addressed even with additional experimental works.