

**ATTENTION – PhD STUDENTS**  
**ECE 693 – Candidacy Examination**

**Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering**  
**PhD Candidacy Examination Procedure**

PhD students must register in ECE 693 in every term of their program until the oral examination is passed.

The PhD Candidacy Examination in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering consists of an Oral Examination. The Oral Examination should be taken and passed not later than three years from initial PhD registration.

**Oral PhD Candidacy Examination**

1. The purpose of the examination is to test the candidate's fundamental knowledge and competence to do research leading to a PhD dissertation.
2. One month before the proposed date of the candidate's oral examination, the candidate has to submit a written research proposal to the members of his/her supervisory committee.
3. Advise the Graduate Secretary of the date and time of the examination to ensure documents requiring signature are available for the examination.
4. The examination is conducted by the Supervisory Committee and is chaired by the principal supervisor. If requested by the candidate or a member of the supervisory committee, the Graduate Advisor will chair the examination; in cases where the Graduate Advisor is a member of the Supervisory Committee, the Department Chair or delegate will chair in place of the Graduate Advisor. During the oral examination, the candidate will be asked questions related to the research proposal, as well as questions on the fundamentals.
5. The student will be notified of pass or fail. A student who fails the candidacy examination may re-attempt it only once. A second failure requires withdrawal from the program.