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# Grad meetings

## Candidacy exams: are they important?

**Professor Rebecca Johnson, Mary Anne Vallianatos  
& Himaloya Saha**

**University of Victoria - Faculty of Law**

**October 2, 2020 09:00 am (Vancouver)**

The candidacy exam is required of all PhD students and is taken no later than two years after a student's first registration in a PhD program at UVic. This academic requirement helps graduate programs to determine if a student is ready to begin research in a specific area. Thus, it assesses if a student has 1) adequate knowledge of the discipline and specific research topic; and 2) the ability to pursue research at an advanced level. Although some people argue that this requirement is unnecessarily rigid and lengthy, others point out that it is one of the most helpful experiences that a researcher can undergo. In this presentation, our speakers, Prof. Rebecca Johnson, Mary Anne Vallianatos, and Himaloya Saha explained why candidacy exams are important and how to prepare for taking them.

<https://uvic.zoom.us/j/82729109140?pwd=OHBLZ2VIRzJMdlp4bHZoZ0x0WGRLZz09>

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