

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

Department of Slavic Languages & Literatures

Ph.D. Portfolio Oral Exam

Candidates for the Ph.D. degree must submit their PhD portfolio materials and complete the PhD portfolio oral examinations to pass on to the dissertation stage.

- 1) Candidates need to inform the Director of Graduate Studies of their intention to submit and defend their PhD portfolio at least 6 months before the defense is scheduled.
- 2) The Candidate needs to assemble the Examination Committee prior to scheduling. The PhD portfolio Committee consists of at least **five members**. There can be at least two types of configurations depending on the candidate's interests. There can be a) four members of the Slavic Department Graduate Faculty who reflect the academic interests and specializations of the candidate, one of whom represents the second Slavic language and b) one member of the Graduate Faculty from outside the Slavic Department (this person could potentially also be in charge of the candidate's minor curriculum). Alternatively, there can be b) three members of the Slavic Department Graduate Faculty, and b) two Graduate Faculty from outside the department. According to university regulations, a committee member from outside the Department serves as the official Graduate Studies Representative at the examination.
- 3) The Candidate takes a written translation exam to prove their competency in a second Slavic language prior to their portfolio defense.
- 4) In consultation with the Chair, candidates must schedule the PhD portfolio defense one month in advance and provide the committee with their materials at least two weeks in advance of the defense. It is the responsibility of Candidates for the Ph.D. Comprehensive Examination to:
 - a) Remove the grade of "Incomplete" in any course, which will count toward degree prior to taking the Ph.D. Comprehensive examination.
 - b) Receive approval of their Advisor that materials are ready for dissemination to the committee members.
- 5) Everyone in the committee participates in the two-hour oral defense of the portfolio. The defense consists of a free-form, broad intellectual discussion that stems from the materials presented in the Candidate's portfolio and extends to aspects of the SLL reading list (for literature students) and SLL coursework (for linguistics students) as these relate to the Candidate's materials.
- 6) The Chair and the Graduate Studies Representative fill out the exam outcome form that is then submitted to COGA for processing. Additionally, the Chair reports the results of the oral examination in writing (via email is sufficient) to the Director of Graduate Studies who then reports the results on the proper form to the Graduate School.