

Graduate Outcome Assessment for M.S. Thesis Defense Evaluation / Plant Science (PLSC) Graduate Program

Student Name: _____ Advisor: _____ Date of Evaluation: _____

Name of Committee Member: _____ Signature of Committee Member: _____

Criteria	Exemplary	Strong	Competent	Marginal	Unacceptable
Understanding of Questions	Responds incisively and directly to questions asked.	Most responses are direct and relevant to the questions asked.	Responds adequately to questions asked; occasionally responds with unrelated information.	Confuses some significant concepts in the questions asked.	Does not understand questions and/or concepts.
Response to Questions	Responses to questions are specific, dependable, and complex.	Response to questions are more general, but still accurate: analyses goes beyond the obvious.	Responses to questions are overly general and disorganized; may have some factual, interpretive, or conceptual errors.	Response to questions are vague or irrelevant.	No discernable response to most questions asked.
Support of Arguments	Provides substantial, well-chosen evidence and uses it strategically.	Provides sufficient and appropriate evidence to support their arguments.	Provides some evidence but it is not always relevant, sufficient, or integrated into the response.	Evidence is usually only narrative or anecdotal; awkwardly or incorrectly used to support arguments.	Little or no evidence used to support arguments.
Communication of Responses	Responses are presented and communicated in a professional manner.	Most responses are presented and communicated well. There are few problems in communication of ideas and concepts.	Responses are generally presented and communicated adequately. There are occasional problems in communication of ideas and concepts.	Responses are sometimes repetitive and not related to the topic. There are frequent problems in communication of ideas and concepts.	Responses are not coherent, but illogical, poorly structured, and student fails to communicate ideas and concepts.