## THESIS EXAMINATION POLICY COMPARISON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old regulations: Thesis examination regulations prior to September 1, 2014</th>
<th>New regulations: Thesis examination regulations as of September 1, 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scheduling an Examination</strong></td>
<td><strong>Scheduling an Examination</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A thesis examination can be scheduled after completion of all degree requirements.</td>
<td>All members of Supervisory Committee have reviewed the student’s research and a relevant written sample of the materials related to the thesis OR the entire draft thesis document [program-level choice] AND The supervisor has determined that the thesis meets the minimum standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Composition of the Examination Committee</strong></td>
<td><strong>Composition of the Examination Committee</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **For Master’s:** The examining committee consists of the supervisor (and if applicable the co-supervisor) and two other members, one of whom must be external to the student’s program. | **For Master’s without Supervisory Committee:** The examination committee consist of the student’s supervisor, an additional member of the academic staff and an internal or external examiner.  
**For Master’s with Supervisory Committee:** The examination committee consists of the student’s supervisor, supervisory committee and an internal or external examiner. |
| If there is a formal Supervisory Committee only one additional examiner external to the program is required. |  |
| **For PhD:** The examination committee consists of the student’s supervisor, supervisory committee, a member external to the student’s program (but internal to The University of Calgary) and another member external to The University. | **For PhD:** The examination committee consists of the student’s supervisor, supervisory committee, internal examiner and external examiner. |
| **Internal/External Examiner**  
There are no specified criteria for the internal/external examiner, but they must not be within the same department as the student. | **Internal Examiner** *(replaced Internal/External Examiner)*  
The program determines if the internal examiner needs to be external to the program. AND  
The internal examiner must meet the following criteria: 

a. Has a well-established research reputation  
b. Has expertise in the area of the student’s research  
c. Has experience in evaluating theses at the graduate level  
d. Has experience in supervising to completion at the graduate level  
e. Has not collaborated with the student’s supervisor in past five years  
f. Has not worked with the candidate  
g. Is not a close personal friend of the supervisor |
| --- | --- |
| **External Examiner**  
There are no restrictions on the number of appointments of the external examiner. | **External Examiner**  
Normally, the external examiner can only serve in the same program once every two years. |
| **Outcome of the Examination**  
Students can receive a Pass or a Fail on the thesis and on the oral examination. There is no time limit to provide revisions after the exam. | **Outcome of the Examination**  
The Examination Committee can recommend the following outcomes for the thesis:  
- Pass with no revisions [5 days to submit thesis]  
- Pass with minor revisions [30 days/1 month to submit thesis]  
- Pass with major revisions [180 days/6 months to submit thesis]  
- Fail |

*This document only highlights the major changes. Please review the Academic Regulations sections in the current Graduate Calendar to understand the new regulations for Thesis and Thesis Examinations. For more information on the old regulations, see the Handbook of Supervision and Examination in the 2014-2015 Graduate Calendar.*