Bioengineering PhD Qualifier Exam – Rules and Regulations

1. TRACK SELECTION – MORE THAN ONE TRACK CAN BE SELECTED (WITH HELP OF ADVISOR AND ADVISING COMMITTEE)

☐ Biomaterials
☐ Bioinstrumentation
☐ Biomechanics
☐ Regenerative Medicine

2. QUALIFIER EXAM DATE (QUALIFIER MUST BE TAKEN NO LATER THAN ONE YEAR AND HALF YEAR AFTER PHD PROGRAM ENROLLMENT)*

☐ Fall semester – second week after beginning of classes (Friday 1:00-4:30PM)
☐ Spring semester – second week after beginning of classes (Friday 1:00-4:30PM)

3. QUALIFIER EXAM FORMAT AND GRADING

☐ A PhD student is required to meet with his/her advising committee no more than six months after enrollment (at least 3 months before qualifier exam) to be informed on topics to cover, general and project-specific, for qualifier exam.

☐ Written exam consists of 7 questions: 5 questions (from a list of 8) from selected research track(s), and 2 questions (from a list of 3 developed by the advisor) related to the student’s research project. Questions will evaluate the student’s ability to think critically and apply knowledge gained from the core track courses.

☐ Exam is administered and graded by appropriate faculty members.

☐ Grades are returned to the advisor who communicate them to the student.

☐ Passing grade is 75% or higher; if lower, a list of deficiencies is forwarded to the student. Graded exam is not returned to the student. The student can be invited to an oral exam.

4. ORAL EXAM (IF NEEDED)

☐ The oral exam is administered by a committee made up of 3 or more members: student’s advisor (or committee member appointed by advisor) and appropriate faculty members.

☐ Other Clemson faculty members could also be invited (ad hoc) to cover specific expertise in which deficiencies were found as needed (statistics, etc.)

☐ Exam is administered no later than one month after receiving the list of deficiencies.

☐ Examiners will use a rubric developed by the department for grading. Grading is pass, fail, or conditional pass with condition specified by the oral examination committee.

Approved December 15, 2015 – BIOE FACULTY