

Rubric for Assessing Student Learning Outcomes Microbiology – PhD Dissertation and Defense

Student Name:

Defense Date:

Advisor Name:

SLO 2: Application of scientific methods in microbiology as evidenced by the written dissertation:

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| States the research problem clearly, providing motivation for undertaking the research | |
| Demonstrates sound knowledge of literature in the area, and of prior work on the specific research problem | |
| Shows a good understanding of how to use methods/tools effectively | |
| Defends use of particular methods/tools clearly and logically | |
| Shows ability to propose future research questions | |

SLO 3: Effective oral communication of research in microbiology as evidenced by the dissertation defense:

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| Presents sufficient background information to justify the project | |
| Clearly presents the hypotheses tested | |
| Clearly presents the experimental design and statistical/analytical tools used | |
| Uses slides effectively to convey content | |
| Provides an overall clearly conceived and designed PhD dissertation | |

SLO 4: Effective written communication of research in microbiology as evidenced by the written dissertation:

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| States the research problem clearly, providing motivation for the research | |
| Synthesizes peer-reviewed literature appropriate for research topic | |
| Clearly describes appropriate scientific and statistical methods/tools | |
| Presents results clearly and succinctly | |
| Uses appropriate graphics | |
| Comes to conclusions that are supported by the results | |

Please return form to biolgrad@clemson.edu.