

**UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**GUIDELINES -
REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL EXAMINER FOR THE PHD THESIS**

1. OVERALL ASSESSMENT;

Unsatisfactory / Satisfactory after major changes / Satisfactory after minor changes / Satisfactory / Above average / Outstanding.

University guidelines for the report of a Doctoral Examination Committee permits the student's overall performance to be assessed only as either satisfactory or unsatisfactory. The purpose of the more refined categories for the Report of the External Examiner listed above is provide a more flexible context for the detailed comments that follow in #2-7 below.

2. OBJECTIVES:

Are the study objectives clearly stated? Is the scope of the research appropriate for this PhD degree?

3. METHODOLOGY:

Is the research design satisfactory, and are the research methods sound? Have the appropriate statistical analyses been conducted?

4. ORIGINALITY AND ACHIEVEMENT:

Have the study objectives been achieved? Does the thesis make an original contribution to the discipline? Is the significance of the research appropriately understood and identified?

5. INTERPRETATION:

Have the data and results been analyzed and interpreted in a valid manner?

6. PRESENTATION:

Is the thesis written in a clear and effective manner?

7. COMMENTS:

Please comment on strengths and weaknesses, and indicate any changes which are required, or suggested.