

MSK Master's Thesis Defense Evaluation Rubric

Candidate Name: _____

Date: _____

Title of Thesis: _____

Criterion	Exemplary Performance	Meets Expectations	Does Not Meet Expectations
Knowledge & Synthesis of the Literature Student has demonstrated their ability to search the literature and synthesize knowledge ¹ (i.e., compare and contrast research findings and recognize limitations in the literature) gained from the literature.			
Critical Thinking: Student has provided a critical evaluation ² of the literature and through this process; they have clearly explained the need and primary purpose for their research project along with a hypothesis and justification for their expected results.			
Research Design: Student has demonstrated the ability to design and implement a research project that has answered their research question (i.e., project is methodologically sound).			
Analytical & Interpretive Skills: Student has demonstrated that they can effectively analyze and interpret data. Student can clearly explain the findings from their research project.			
Impact of Research on the Field: Student has explained how their study findings impact practice and advance knowledge within the area of study.			
Communication Skills: Student has effectively communicated ³ scientific principles and findings from their research by providing clear explanations and insightful answers to questions, and kept appropriate eye contact with the audience. Students presented information in a logical order with clear and skillful transitions between content areas, keeping the broader audience in mind.			
Final Score (letter grade):	Pass	Pass with Revisions	Fail
	<i>Circle One</i>		

¹ Students were introduced this skill in KINE 5020 and KINE 5150 and this skill was reinforced in KINE 5100, KINE 5250, and KINE 5450

² Students were introduced this skill in KINE 5020 and this skill was reinforced in KINE 5040, KINE 5100, KINE 5150, KINE 5250, KINE 5350, and KINE 5450

³ Students were introduced this skill in KINE 5020 and this skill was reinforced in KINE 5040, KINE 5050, and KINE 5350