

Policies for Biodefense MS Project Comprehensive Exam

- MS Project students must pass a comprehensive exam with both written and oral portions at least one week prior to the Registrar's "graduation deadline" of the semester in which the student expects to finish BIOD 798.
- The content of the exam covers the student's coursework, and may include questions about the student's Project.
- The comprehensive exam is authored by and administered by the student's Project Advisory Committee. The Committee may elicit exam questions from the student's previous instructors.
- The written portion of the exam consists of questions in any of the following forms (or combinations thereof): multiple choice, short answer essay, long answer essay.
- The written portion is administered in a 3-hour time period, in a room at the Prince William campus. Students may not leave the room until they have submitted their exams to the exam proctor as completed.
- The oral portion is administered by all Committee members in one session.
- Oral and written portions of the exam do not have to be administered on the same day. Arrangements for both exam portions are made by the student and Committee together.
- The complete comprehensive exam is graded with one Pass or Fail grade. A copy of the graded exam is put into the student's file.
- If the student passes the exam, the Committee Chair sends a memo to this effect, with the Committee members' signatures, to the Department Chair and the Dean's office.
- If the student fails the exam, he/she receives a grade of "IP" in BIOD 798. Student will be allowed to re-take the exam the following semester. [NOTE: Student must be registered in semester of graduation. If student has successfully completed Project and submitted a Project report, if no credits remain for BIOD 798, and if the student has no more courses to take, the Registrar's office will enroll student in a special registration for the final semester in which student is re-taking the exam.]