DOCTORAL QUALIFYING EXAMINATION (DQE)

The Doctoral Qualifying Examination is scheduled after all course work has been completed. There are two parts to this examination: a paper and an oral defense.

PAPER ASSIGNMENT

The purpose of this paper is to develop an educational vision that is grounded in a complex understanding of major books in the field. The approximately thirty page paper should draw on no fewer than fifteen books from the doctoral reading list (reading list is included at the end of this section). Examining what these books tell us and fail to tell us, you must offer a perspective on the extent to which schools have worked, presently work, and might work to promote equality and excellence.

EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR PAPER

- Address an appropriate number of texts (15), plus two adviser-approved, self-selected texts
- Demonstrate an understanding of the main arguments of each text
- Demonstrate a grasp of how the arguments of the texts are related to each other
- Demonstrate a critical understanding of the texts
- Present the texts in a way that responds to the examination question
- Make use of the texts in a way that allows writer to develop own stance or position
- Draw on the texts to create a vision for the future
- Create an organized, coherent, error free text that is a maximum of 30 pages, double spaced, in 12 pt. type.

LOGISTICS FOR PREPARING THE DQE AND SUBMITTING FOR FACULTY REVIEW

The student must contact his/her adviser about his/her intention and plan to complete the DQE. The student may submit up to two drafts of the DQE to the adviser for general comments and suggestions. Following any needed revisions, the student will submit copies of the paper to faculty who compose the doctoral committee. Faculty will be asked to evaluate the paper within a week. If a majority of the faculty vote that the paper is at least “satisfactory,” an oral defense will be held as scheduled. If the majority of the faculty vote that the paper is less than “satisfactory,” the student will fail the DQE and no oral defense will be held. Students who fail the written part of the exam will have the opportunity to submit a second paper to the faculty committee. If the second paper is unsatisfactory, no further attempts will be permitted.

In the oral defense, the student will have an opportunity to defend the written paper and answer questions from the examining committee about the paper as well as about any of the books on the doctoral reading list. At the end of the oral defense, the student will be asked to leave the examination room so that the committee can discuss the student’s performance and vote on whether the student has passed the DQE. The student will be immediately informed of the committee’s decision and recommendations.
DQE DISCUSSION GROUP

The DQE Discussion Group is a dedicated group of pre-DQE stage doctoral students who meet regularly to discuss selections from the texts on the doctoral reading list. If you have questions about this group, please contact Lori Fredrich at 414-288-0659.

OFFICIAL DOCTORAL CANDIDACY

Students advance to doctoral candidacy upon recommendation of their department after completing all course work, fulfilling the residency requirement, and passing the Doctoral Qualifying Examination. A student cannot advance to candidacy until all requirements, as listed on the Doctoral Program Planning Form, have been satisfied.
The Doctoral Reading List

Required Reading


Additional Reading (Choose at least 7 of these books)


**Two Additional Books (Chosen with advisor)**

1. _______________________________________

2. _______________________________________