



## MSc Final Oral Exam

The thesis defense for the MSc degree consists of an oral examination, in which the student first presents a 15-20 minute overview of their work, after which the examiners ask questions based both on the thesis work and other areas in immunology.

The Departmental Examination committee for the MSc thesis defense will consist of the student's supervisory committee (supervisor and no more than two committee members), a current or former member of the Graduate Committee, (who will act as exam chair if not the supervisor of the student being examined), and one additional member of the graduate faculty, usually but not necessarily a member of the Department of Immunology, for a maximum total of 5 (a quorum for the examination will be 4). See below.

Students will be judged separately on the acceptability of their thesis and on their performance in its defense. Two or more negative votes (abstentions not being permitted) either on the thesis itself or on its defense will constitute a failure. In the event of a student failing either or both the thesis and its defense, a second and final examination will be reconvened within three months. A pass with respect to both the thesis and its defense will be required for Departmental recommendation that the MSc degree be granted.

The completed thesis must be given to the examining committee for the MSc exam at least two weeks before the exam date. Please note that the Graduate office needs approximately four weeks to arrange an examining committee.

A student may request to be evaluated at the MSc exam for admissibility to the PhD program. Students who wish to be considered for this option should inform the Immunology Graduate Office prior to the scheduling of the exam so that examiners can be notified in advance. The examination committee members will submit their recommendation to the Associate Chair, Graduate Studies.

### Composition of the examination committee



Maximum (and Department recommendation) = 5 voting members

If you have more than 3 committee members, all can attend but only 3 may vote

Students and examiners are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and professional manner during the examination.

The exam Chair will ensure that all components of the exam are conducted to the standards of the Department of Immunology and the School of Graduate Studies.

\*or any member of the Dol if Graduate Committee member is already a member of the Supervisory Committee