

BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT GRADUATE THESIS DEFENSE EVALUATION FORM

Student Name: _____ **NMU IN:** _____

THESIS DEFENSE EVALUATION

In order for a graduate student thesis defense to be accepted in the Northern Michigan University Biology Department, ALL THREE of the following elements must meet the required criteria for success (achieve a “pass”). Criteria are evaluated by the thesis advisory committee.

Pass Resubmit Fail

SEMINAR

Criteria	Does not meet expectations	Meets expectations	Exceeds expectations	Comments
Oral presentation skills were professional and appropriate to the venue				
Content selected for presentation was appropriate and linked to evidence collected by the student				
Presentation organization was effective and professional				
Visual aspects of the presentation were professional				
Student answered questions effectively and professionally				

Pass Resubmit Fail

THESIS (WRITTEN)

Criteria	Does not meet expectations	Meets expectations	Exceeds expectations	Comments
Research project used sound techniques and appropriate statistical analysis				
Interpretation of results was tightly linked to the data, and in accord with theoretical/analytical constructs				

Thesis is written well following appropriate English and scientific styles				
Thesis is well organized according to relevant scientific style and presents the research project clearly and concisely.				
Figures, tables and other supportive materials are appropriate, well-constructed and appropriate to their purpose.				

Pass **Resubmit** **Fail**

ORAL EXAMINATION

Criteria	Does not meet expectations	Meets expectations	Exceeds expectations	Comments
Student was able to expand on the explanation of their research project and discuss implications orally				
Student answered questions and discussed concepts in a manner that showed appropriate disciplinary knowledge at the M.S. level				

This form must be signed on the defense date regardless of the outcome of the evaluation. The student may resubmit any of the three elements of the Thesis Defense, should they be necessary, once. If an element receives a “fail”, it may not be resubmitted.

Thesis Committee Chair Date

Third Reader (opt) Date

First Reader Date

Fourth Reader (opt) Date

Second Reader Date