

The *CAAS Rubric for Dissertation and Oral Defense* is the artifact that is used to assess if students can communicate effectively in oral and written form by the scores earned within the **Assessment Criteria: Quality of Writing (for written communication) & Assessment Criteria: Oral Defense (for oral communication.)**



## Faculty Form – Rubric for Dissertation and Oral Defense

Please review the complete rubric for the PhD student dissertation and defense prior to reading the draft dissertation or attending the oral defense.

<b>Student name</b>	_____
<b>Date</b>	_____
<b>Major advisor</b>	_____
<b>Committee member name</b>	_____

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Dissertation Document

Assessment criteria	Does not meet expectations	Meets expectations	Exceeds expectations
<b>Quality of the Scholarly Work</b>			
Mastery of fundamental knowledge in the field			
Ability to access and integrate information into a cohesive overview of current knowledge. Ability to critically evaluate the meaning, value and contribution of published literature in the field.			
Imagination and originality of thought			
Ability to design and implement an appropriate collection and analysis of data.			
Ability to draw reasoned conclusions from a body of knowledge			
<b>Contribution to Discipline</b>			
Impact of research on the field			
Publication potential			
<b>Quality of Writing</b>			
Skilled at scientific/technical writing			
Organization, sentence structure, grammar, mechanics and spelling			
<b>Overall assessment</b>			

### Oral Defense

Assessment criteria	Does not meet expectations	Meets expectations	Exceeds expectations
<b>Quality of Presentation</b>			
Presentation design			
Content and organization			
Presenter skills			
<b>Breadth and Depth of Knowledge</b>			
Defends, clarifies, and expands upon written dissertation with further evidence and argument			
Demonstrates knowledge of dissertation subject, primary sources, and background scholarship; demonstrates ability to synthesize dissertation topic with broader topics in the discipline			
<b>Quality of Responses to Questions</b>			
Directly and correctly answers the examiner's questions			
Shows evidence of critical thinking and an awareness of the limits of his or her knowledge			
<b>Overall assessment</b>			