

Qualifying Exams Guidelines

Here are the assessment criteria that the faculty use for evaluating the qualifying exams:

Students must:

- Present succinct and insightful analyses of the readings, including the major assumptions and rhetorical stances of the authors
- Situate the readings within broader theoretical, pedagogical, and/or historical contexts
- Reflect critically upon the arguments, contexts, and line of inquiry in the readings
- Develop their own arguments from these reflections
- Write their responses clearly and concisely

Here is the format you will use for the qualifying exam, taken directly from the Qualifying Exam given to students in August 2011.

Follow these directions to format your examination:

- Do not exceed a *total* of 32 double-spaced pages, not counting a Works Cited page for each response. You may use MLA or APA citation format.
- Use the font Times New Roman, 12 pt. font.
- Use one-inch margins.
- Number your responses, one to five; write the question (single-spaced) to which you are responding.