Guideline for Ph.D. Qualifying Exam Biotechnology Program

A graduate student must take the qualifying exam within four semesters (for Bachelor's degree conferred) and three semesters (for Master's degree conferred)

1. **Evaluation**

   A candidate presents selected research topics from international peer-reviewed journals*. Candidate's performance, such as background knowledge, communication skill, etc., will be evaluated by a committee.

2. **Composition of a committee**

   2.1. A committee must comprise five examiners including a student advisor, a co-advisor (otherwise, the advisor nominates a field expert relevant to student dissertation), and three internal examiners.

   2.2. The board of Biotechnology nominates a chairperson, excluding a student advisor and a co-advisor. The selected chairperson serves as the exam moderator.

   2.3. The Head of Biotechnology proposes the list of a committee and a nominated chairperson to seek approval from the board of School of Bioresources and Technology.

   2.4. Upon the approval, a student advisor is responsible for subsequent organization, such as the selection of research articles and the exam appointment.

3. **Research articles**

   3.1. A candidate consults the advisor to submit at least three research articles* to the exam committee.

   3.2. The committee screens at least two articles for the exam.

   3.3. The chairperson seeks approval of selected articles to the board of Biotechnology.

4. **Examination**

   4.1. The advisor arranges the exam date, time, and location.

   4.2. A candiate has 20 minutes to present each article.

4.3. A student will be asked and challenged to test his/her performance in biotechnology-related subjects.
4.4. The chairperson summarizes the comments from the committee, reveals the result, and seeks endorsement from the Head of Biotechnology, then the Dean of School of Bioresources and Technology, respectively.
4.5. If fail, a candidate is able to re-take the exam depending on the consideration of the exam committee.

Note:

**Selection rules for articles*

1. Articles must be published in the ISI database or Q1-Q2 in Scopus.
2. Articles should be selected as to measure whether student performances meet the expected requirements of biotechnology and to see whether a student is ready for Ph.D. dissertation.