

Transitional Rules for Ph.D. Qualifying Exams:

- 1) Students may choose to stay with the old PhD qualifying exam policy or follow the transitional rules below which apply immediately to students enrolled in Fall 07 or earlier.
- 2) For students who have taken qualifying exams (QEs), a "Pass" in a QE is counted, and a "Marginal" or "Fail" is ignored. This implies that:
 - A student who has passed 3 or more QEs, is considered to have obtained an overall "Pass" in the QEs.
 - A student who has passed n QEs, where n is 0,1 or 2, may choose to take the remaining $3-n$ QEs from any track. Once a QE is taken, he/she must pass it within 2 attempts.
- 3) A student who passed 3 or more exams but failed the overall PhD QE during Fall 06 or Spring 07 under the old PhD QE policy may be reconsidered by the PhD Committee upon the research adviser's appeal on a case-by-case basis.
- 4) QE Timings:
 - A student who has passed 1 or 2 QEs must take the remaining QEs by the end of Spring 08 and pass all 3 QEs by Fall 08.
 - A student who has not passed any QEs must take all 3 QEs by the end of Fall 08 and pass all 3 QEs by Spring 09.
 - A student who has passed 1 or 2 QEs, and decides to take the remaining 1 or 2 in Fall 07, then Fall 07 is counted and the student must pass all 3 QEs by Spring 08. Otherwise, the student must take all 3 QEs by the end of Spring 08 and pass all of them by Fall 08.
- 5) The departmental Ph.D. committee or student's Ph.D. supervisor may ask a student to take additional exams in specific areas in later semesters.
- 6) Part-Time Students: The above timing rules apply to full-time students only. For part-time students, 1 long semester is added in all scenarios.