Written Thesis/Dissertation Evaluation Form

Thesis/Dissertation Submitted by: **Date:**

Thesis/Dissertation Evaluated by:

Please rank the following items on a scale of 1 – 5, where 1 is least and 5 is greatest.

Scientific Content

_____ 1. ***Knowledge of subject/background/significance*.** To what extent does the writer exhibit knowledge of the field pertaining to and forming the foundation of the research plan? Is the expertise of the writer undermined by misstatements, factual errors, or omission of important details? To what extent does the writer adequately communicate the significance of the research to be undertaken? Scientific significance may be expressed in terms of actual or potential applications to technology *and/or* contributions to understanding fundamental principles or phenomena in nature.

_____ 2. ***Research Plan Coherence*.** To what extent does the research plan have clear goals and objectives? Does the introductory material logically lead to the research problem to be addressed? Are the basis and rationale for the experimental approach clear?

_____ 3. ***Technical Expertise*.** To what extent are the methods appropriate to the research questions/problems being addressed? Does the writer exhibit a sufficient grasp of the methodology to be used and what/how it would contribute to the research plan?

Writing Quality

_____ 4. ***Clarity of Writing*.** Is the research plan well organized? Are sections, paragraphs, and sentences clearly written and free of ambiguity? Does the document conform to the page limits prescribed by the Graduate Handbook? To what extent does the writer use proper grammar, punctuation, spelling, and capitalization, etc.?

_____ 5. ***Quality of Figures*.** Are the figures and schemes used by the writer legible, clearly described, and appropriately called out in the text? To what extent do the figures/schemes used by the author help to effectively communicate the key points of the research plan?

_____ 6. ***Citations and use of source material*.** Does the writer appropriately and correctly cite the sources used to support the research plan? Does the writer misattribute or fail to attribute the published work of others relevant to the research plan?

Summary score

_____ 7. Provide an overall rating of the Written Thesis/Dissertation.

Comments for improvement: