Quantitative Research, Evaluation and Measurement
New Ph.D. Comprehensive Examination Format

For students entering prior to August 2018: Students can choose between the new portfolio assessment format (as outlined below) or the prior portfolio format.

For students beginning August 2018: All students will be required to submit the portfolio (as outlined below) for their comprehensive examination.

The Comprehensive Examination for the QREM program consists of two primary components. The first is the development of a portfolio that will demonstrate each student’s specific training and coursework within QREM as well as their professional development as a researcher. The second component of the comprehensives is an oral defense. Contents of the portfolio will be negotiated with the student’s advisor. The portfolio is submitted and defended orally to the student’s advisory committee (4 members, at least two of whom must be from QREM), who are responsible for overseeing the comprehensive examination and evaluating the student. Preparation of the portfolio should begin during or following the second year of graduate study.

The portfolio is designed to represent or showcase each student’s full academic experience within the QREM program at OSU. At least six products are required for the comprehensive examination portfolio, as shown below.

A. Required documents (3)
   • Current CV
   • Document proficiency with at least two statistical, syntax-based software programs
   • Reflection piece (1-page) describing how each product/experience included in the portfolio links with the knowledge and skills acquired during your QREM studies

B: Professional Preparation (1 or more)
   For at least one professional preparation product, the student must be the first author and leader of the study. For each, indicate the % of student contribution for each product.
   • Peer-reviewed publication
   • Paper submitted for publication
   • Presentation or poster accepted for presentation at a professional conference
   • Completed evaluation or other type of report for a client or organization

C: Preparation for the Dissertation (3)
   • Minimum five-page pre-proposal for the dissertation
   • Literature review on a topic decided between the student and the major advisor
   • Report of a small-scale research study using secondary data, simulated data, or pilot data collected by the student.

Thus the portfolio represents the written portion of the comprehensive examination, subsequently followed by the scheduled oral examination. Structure and focus of the oral examination will be decided by the student’s committee as well as being based on the particular portfolio elements submitted. The standards will be the same as that of a traditional comprehensive exam.