

<b>Rubric for qualifying exams in Environmental Toxicology</b>			
	<b>Level 1 (needs improvement)</b>	<b>Level 2 (Meets expectations)</b>	<b>Level 3 (Performance above expectations)</b>
<b>Student handles pertinent literature</b>	<p>Unaware of landmark papers in the field</p> <p>Unaware of how to connect existing studies with the project</p> <p>Unaware of journal titles relevant for the field of study</p>	<p>Familiar with important studies in the field</p> <p>Familiar with pertinent literature related to the field</p> <p>Familiar with important journal titles</p>	<p>Able to discuss various studies related to the project, putting them in context</p> <p>Has read important references cited in relevant studies.</p> <p>Can distinguish quality papers from not so strong studies.</p>
<b>Understanding of the problem under study</b>	<p>Unable to articulate the goals of the project</p> <p>Unable to explain how will the proposed experiments assess those goals</p>	<p>Has a clear idea of the aims of the project</p> <p>Puts those aims in context</p> <p>Understands how the selected methodology will address specific aims</p>	<p>Not only understands the project but is able to make predictions, delineate future directions and address possible implications</p>
<b>Relevance of the problem under study to the environment</b>	<p>Does not understand the relevance of the project to the environment</p>	<p>Understands the relevance of the project to a specific environmental problem</p>	<p>Not only understand the relevance of the project to the environment, but can see implications with a variety of related problems</p>
<b>Quality of student's presentation</b>	<p>Unable to analyze data</p> <p>Data is presented out of context.</p> <p>Student does not understand the relevance of the data</p>	<p>Articulate, able to communicate goals and aims of the study</p> <p>Presentation is clear and slides are appropriate</p>	<p>Presentation is carried out in a professional and relaxed manner</p> <p>Student does not read notes during presentation</p> <p>Quality and clarity of slides above average</p>
<b>Student's understanding of the principles behind the methodology to be used in the study</b>	<p>Unable to interpret data</p> <p>Does not understand the principles behind the method.</p> <p>Unable to differentiate artifacts from real results</p>	<p>Basic idea of the principles behind each method</p>	<p>Aware of alternative methods to confirm results</p> <p>Ability to put technical details and basic principles in context with the project</p>