

Department of Mathematics and Statistics
M.S. Mathematics and M.S. Statistics Comprehensive Oral Examination
Approval Form

To be eligible to take the Comprehensive Examination, students must:

- a) Have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better across all courses completed in their program;
- b) Have no more than 9 hours of required coursework remaining, and anticipate completing this coursework in the current semester or session; and
- c) Be formally registered in graduate coursework at NAU at the time of the exam.

The Comprehensive Examination Committee shall normally consist of 3 members. The Committee and topics to be covered shall be selected by the student's assigned departmental graduate advisor in the program, and approved by the Graduate Operations Committee. Where possible, the committee membership should be restricted to those faculty members from whom the student has completed or is in the process of completing coursework in their program. The Chair of the Committee shall be the student's assigned graduate advisor or a committee member designated by the advisor should he/she not be a member of the Committee.

A student will be tested over three courses, selected with the guidance of the student's advisor and approved by both the advisor and the Graduate Operations Committee. Note: If the oral exam includes courses that are currently in progress, then the exam may not take place until after the 12th week of instruction (after the 4th week of instruction in the summer).

- For the M.S. program in Mathematics, the three courses selected should form a coherent group of coursework, and should include at least one course from each of the two blocks selected for the student's program.

- For the M.S. program in Statistics, the examination should cover both theoretical and applied coursework.

Each examination typically lasts 2 hours with 30-45 minutes allowed per course. At the end of the exam a discussion of the Committee members shall occur, with a vote taken following the discussion. The committee members may vote to pass or fail. If a two-thirds majority is not obtained to pass, then the student fails the examination. They may retake the oral exam on the same set of course work after a period of one month has passed. Should a student fail the comprehensive exam a second time, then their enrollment in the program will be terminated. The Chair of the Oral Committee will promptly convey the result (pass/fail) of the exam to the Chair of the Graduate Operations Committee.

Student name/signature/date

Degree program

GPA

Proposed committee chair name

proposed course

Proposed committee member name

proposed course

Proposed committee member name

proposed course

Graduate advisor name/signature/date

Chair Graduate Operations Committee name/signature/date