

General Doctoral Exam Written Portion Closed Book Examination Option

This option is only available to Industrial-Organizational Psychology students.

1. **Exam Content:** The members of the I/O faculty will construct the written exam for each administration. There will be three major content areas in I/O Psychology assessed on the written exam—Industrial Psychology, Organizational Psychology, and Quantitative Methods and Measurement. The exam uses an essay format. The written exam will be given over 3 consecutive days with each day covering one of the major content areas. The exam will be closed book on all three days (i.e., no external materials are allowed). Students will receive several questions for each administration and will respond to two questions per section. Once students sit for the exam on the first day, they must take all three sections. Any section not completed will be recorded as a failure.
2. **Coordinating Exam Administration:** One member of the I/O faculty will coordinate the scheduling and administration of the written exam each year. The written exam will be offered twice each academic year. The exam days will be determined by the faculty member responsible for coordinating the exam and will not overlap with the regular academic semester. All candidates will be required to take the exam on the specified dates. Students must declare their candidacy for a specified administration to the faculty exam coordinator 8 weeks in advance of the scheduled exam date.
3. **Grading of Written Exam:** All members of the I/O faculty will individually grade written exams on 5-point scale. Evaluators will be blind to the name of the student(s) taking the examination. Question scores (ranging from 1 to 5) within each of the three topic areas' questions (Industrial, Organizational, Quantitative) will then be averaged based on raters' score. A minimum score of 3.0 is required to pass any question on the exam. Students will be provided with their written test results as soon as the grading has been completed, typically within 4 weeks.
4. **Pass/ Failure of Exam:** If the student passes 5 or 6 questions, then the student will proceed to schedule and take his/her oral examination. If the student fails two or more questions, then the student must retake the test at the next exam administration date. Students will be allowed to take only one re-examination of the written part of the doctoral exam. Students passing both questions in one section on the first administration will need to retake only those sections in which one question was failed. Students have only 2 opportunities to pass the written general doctoral examination. Thus, there will be only 1 partial or full re-examination.