

The following is the procedure normally followed at an oral examination:

- The oral is a public presentation that any interested person may attend. The examining committee comprises an independent chairman, the supervisor and co-supervisor, an internal examiner and an external examiner. In cases where the external examiner is unable to be present, a telephonic connection or conference call may be arranged.
- The candidate gives an oral presentation lasting 20 minutes.
- Questions from the audience are allowed after the presentation.
- The public then leaves the room, only the candidate and the members of the examining committee remaining.
- The examiners then have the opportunity to question the candidate. Supervisors and co-supervisors may only participate if requested to do so.
- The candidate then leaves the room and the supervisor has an opportunity to give input, without suggesting any specific point. The supervisor then departs, leaving only the chairman and the examiners.
- The examiners discuss their reports and come to an agreement on the result of the examination and the mark to be awarded.
- Directly after the termination of this discussion the student and supervisor are informed of the result and the mark awarded.
- Students may give their presentations in Afrikaans if they choose, but are advised to ask their supervisors what language the examiners would prefer. The audience should also be considered in making this decision, as foreign students or visitors would probably be unable to understand Afrikaans.