

Oral Thesis Examination (Viva Voce)

Viva voce examinations are held for all PhD, DBA and Master by Research candidates. Your Viva Voce session is an opportunity for your examiners to meet you in person and question you further about your research and written thesis. In particular, the examination is to:

- Demonstrate that the thesis/dissertation is your own work;
- Confirm that you understand your work and can defend it verbally;
- Ascertain whether your thesis/dissertation is of adequately high standard to merit the award of the degree for which it is submitted.

A viva session is attended by the candidate, the board of examiners and, a non-examining chairperson. It is not necessary for your supervisor(s) to attend; but they most definitely will attend either to give you moral support and/or to help you take notes of the examiners' comments (you may be too nervous or too focused in addressing the examiners' comments!). Other than that, your supervisor(s) may not take any active part in the proceedings except after the board of examiners has announced the results whereby your supervisor(s) may consult with the examiners to ensure that you both have a clear understanding of any corrections to be undertaken.

The Viva Unit in OYAGSB will be responsible for arranging the viva voce examination date. You have to submit your thesis/dissertation within 3 months after you submit your intent to viva form. Within a month after receiving your thesis/dissertation, examiners will be appointed for your Thesis Examination Board. Once the appointment is accepted, your thesis/dissertation will be sent to the examiners and they will be given 5 weeks to read and examine it. An appropriate date will be chosen for your viva after that duration.

The examiners are asked to submit comments before the viva session; but please understand that the comments are made based on what they read from the thesis/dissertation that you submitted. It is vital that you (or your supervisor) take note of the comments that are given DURING the viva, as those comments are useful for you to improvise your thesis/dissertation.

Please read the *Postgraduate Academic Handbook* for Defense of Thesis or Oral Examination which sets out the regulations governing viva voce exams for further information.