

## Master of Science in Architecture

### Comprehensive Examination Guidelines

- Exam Purpose:** The purpose of the comprehensive exam is to test the student's knowledge in areas related to his/her research interest and course work, and to demonstrate preparedness to complete the thesis.
- Exam Administration:** The exam will be administered by the candidate's Thesis Chair. The examiners will include the Thesis Chair and all Thesis Committee members.
- Exam Format:** The Thesis Chair and Thesis Committee members will decide the format of the exam. It may be written, oral or both.
- Exam Timeline:** The exam will be administered towards the end of the students' second semester within the program (preferably following the completion of minimum 18 hours of classes). Specific dates will be identified by the chair according to the students' course work and availability of examiners.
- If the student fails, then he/she can take the exam again in the following semester(s), but no more than three times.
- Registration Requirement:** No registration is required for the exam, but passing of the exam is a prerequisite to register for ARC 6983 and ARC 6981 Master's thesis courses.
- Expectations:** Student is expected to answer the questions provided by the Thesis Chair and Thesis Committee members correctly, have the required knowledge in areas related to his/her research interest and course work, and be ready to register for ARC 6983 and ARC 6981 Master's thesis courses.
- Grading:** Pass/ Fail
- Grading Rubrics:** To pass the comprehensive exam, the students' answers must:
- Demonstrate understanding of the literature;
  - Demonstrate ability to synthesize research and conceptual/ theoretical content;
  - Include valid content, including use of terms, definitions, theories as well as factual material;
  - Use accurate and proper citations;
  - Write clearly and in a well-organized manner.
- Decision:** The decision to pass the student must be unanimous.
- Process:** Students must adhere to the both the Academic Honor Code and the Policy on Academic Dishonesty