

## Updates to the Graduate College Handbook

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To: Haddad, Monica [C R P] <haddad@iastate.edu>

Cc: Robinson, Natalie B [G COL] <nbr@iastate.edu>; Elm, Lisa K [G COL] <lkelm@iastate.edu>

Dear Dr. Haddad,

- We worked on some updates to the Graduate College webpages to clarify some embargo guidelines after addressing a few requests regarding post-graduation embargos and sponsored research embargos. Specifically, we have updated this page, [Availability to the Public](#), after working with the Office of University Counsel, OIPPT, and OSPA.

We want to ensure that the clarifications are also included in the Graduate College Handbook so that the updates are reflected there as well.

Here are the requested updates:

### 4.4.2 > Final Oral Exam.

Currently, it states:

Most master's and all doctoral degree candidates must pass final oral examinations. For detailed information, see "Finishing up".

**Action Item:** Add some bulleted items

The final oral exams will include written works as listed below:

- Master's degree (non-thesis) will require a creative component
- Master's degree (thesis option) will require a thesis
- Doctoral degrees will require a dissertation.

These written works must be made available to the public in a timely manner. (See [Available to Public](#))

### 7.1.5 Dissertation or Thesis and 7.1.6 Creative Component

**Action Item:** Add clarifying details to the existing text.

#### 7.1.5 Dissertation or Thesis

A doctoral degree or master's degree (thesis option) will require a final piece of written research, i.e. a doctoral dissertation or a master's thesis. This research must be made available to the public in a timely manner. (See [Available to Public](#))

#### 7.1.6 Creative Component

A master's degree (non-thesis option) will require a creative component that presents substantial evidence of individual accomplishment...As with a thesis, a creative component should be submitted to members of the POS committee two weeks before the final oral examination. After graduation, the creative component must be made available to the public in a timely manner. (See [Available to Public](#))

I would appreciate it if these updates could be reviewed and approved by the Graduate Council at the next possible meeting.

Please let me know if you need anything else from me. I look forward to your reply.

Best,  
*Lily*

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