EVALUATION RUBRIC: THESIS (M.S.) DEFENSE EXAM

 Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| **Evaluation/Guidance** | **Poor**  | **Marginally Acceptable** | **Acceptable** | **Very Good** | **Excellent** | **Not applicable** |
| 1. **Problem Definition:** Stated the research problem clearly, provided motivation for undertaking the research.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. **Literature and Previous Work:** Demonstrated sound knowledge of literature in the area, and of prior work on the specific research problem. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. **Impact of Proposed Research:** Demonstrated the **(a)** potential value of solution to the research problem in advancing knowledge (a) within and (b) outside **(b)**the area of study.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 4. **Solution Approach:** Applied sound state-of-the-field research methods/tools to solve the defined problem and has described the methods/tools effectively. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. **Results:** Analyzed and interpreted research results/data effectively. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. **Quality of Written and Oral Communication: (a)**  Communicated research results clearly and professionally in both (a) written and (b) oralform. **(b)**  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 7. **Critical Thinking:** Demonstrated capability for research in the area of study and expertise in the area. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8. **Broader Impact:** Demonstrated awareness of broader implications of the concluded research. Broader implications may include social, economic, technical, ethical, and business aspects. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9. **Publications:** Journal or conference publications have resulted (or are anticipated) from this research. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Overall Assessment:** The assessment of the overall performance of the candidate based on the evidence provided in items 1 – 9 above.

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| **CRITERIA** | **PERFORMANCE RATINGS** |
| **Does Not Pass Thesis Defense Exam** | **Passes Thesis Defense Exam** |
| **OVERALL, My Rating of the Thesis:** | **Poor** | **Marginally Acceptable** | **Acceptable** | **Very Good** | **Excellent** |
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