**EVALUATION RUBRIC: MS THESIS DEFENSE / GUIDED STUDY EXAM**

Candidate Name: Date:

Title of Dissertation / Guided Study:

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| **Evaluation** | Not Acceptable | Marginally Acceptable | Acceptable | Very good | Excellent | Not Applicable |
| **1. Problem Definition**: Stated the research problem clearly, providing 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 Research**: Demonstrated the potential value of solution to the research problem in advancing knowledge within the area of study. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **4. Solution Approach**: Has applied sound state-of-the-field research methods/tools to solve the defined problem and has described the methods/tools effectively and correctly. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **5. Results**: Analyzed and interpreted research results/data effectively and correctly. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **6. Quality of Written and/or Oral Communication**: Communicates research clearly and professionally in written and/or oral form. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **7.** **Critical Thinking**: Has demonstrated capability for independent research in the area of study, significant expertise in the area, and ability to make original contributions to the field. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8.**Broader Impact**: Demonstrates awareness of broader implications of the concluded research. Broader implications may include social, economic, technical aspects. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9.**Publications**: Journal or conference publications have resulted (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 RATING** | | | | |
| **Does NOT PASS** | **PASS** | | | |
| **OVERALL RATING** | Not Acceptable | Marginally Acceptable | Acceptable | Very Good | Excellent |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Name of the Research Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_