School of Computing Science; PhD DEPTH EXAMS

The Depth Examination can be scheduled at any time following the completion of breadth requirements and approval. For PhD students, this will be between the 5th and 7th semester of your program. The examining committee, in consultation with the student, specifies the topics prior to the examination. The student prepares a written survey and gives a public depth seminar (15 – 30 minutes in length); the oral examination follows, and then the committee meets to evaluate the student's performance in the program to that point. The committee's evaluation is diagnostic, specifying identifying additional work in weak areas if such exists. A second depth examination or withdrawal from the program may be recommended in extreme cases.

Student Responsibilities:

1) Contact the Graduate Program Assistant (GPA) no later than 2 weeks before the intended examination date.
2) Provide the following information to the GPA in a word file:
   a. Email your previous degree information in the following format;
      i. B.Sc., University, Place, Year;
      ii. M.Sc., University, Place, Year;
   b. Date and Time of Exam;
   c. Committee Members;
      i. An Examiner is required for the Depth Exam. He/she cannot be one of your committee members;
   d. Title and Abstract

GPA Responsibilities:

1) Your Depth exam room will be booked by the GPA;
2) An evaluation form will be provided to your senior supervisor the day before your exam;
3) Your examination will be announced the week before and on the day of your exam.

If you have any questions that this document does not answer, please email the GPA at csgrada@sfu.ca