**EXAMINERS’ INDEPENDENT PRELIMINARY REPORT FORM (for students submitting on or after 1 August 2019)**

**Degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

The Examiners’ Independent Preliminary Report form should be completed independently and without consultation with other examiners. It must be completed prior to the oral examination of the candidate and, once completed, should normally be shared with the other examiner(s) before the date of the viva. The form should be returned to the Doctoral College Office, copied to the School PGR administrator, with the Examiners’ Joint Report and Outcome form after the oral examination. **This form will not routinely be released to the candidate but will be released on request or in the event of an appeal against the outcome of the examination.**

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| --- | --- |
| **Candidate name** |  |
| **Student ID number** |  |
| **School** |  |
| **Thesis title** |  |
| **Date of examination** |  |
| **This report refers to a resubmitted thesis and/or second oral examination** | Yes/No |

**Part 1: Report on the thesis**

Please provide comments under the following assessment criteria. Based on your academic judgement, please explain how the thesis fulfils these criteria or how it is deficient. Additional pages may be added if required. You may also wish to use this report to highlight any particular matters that you would like to draw out in the oral examination.

i. The thesis demonstrates that the candidate is well-acquainted with the field of knowledge to which their subject relates

ii. The thesis is presented in satisfactory literary form (including references and bibliography, as appropriate)

iii. The thesis provides evidence of training in, and application of, appropriate research methods

iv. The thesis represents a contribution to knowledge

v. The thesis contains original work worthy of publication

Are you satisfied that the thesis is the candidate’s own work, or, if it was done in collaboration, that their share in the research was sufficient? YES/NO

**Part 2: Preliminary assessment of the thesis**

Subject to the oral examination of the candidate, and based on your academic judgement, please indicate here your preliminary assessment of the submission. **This preliminary assessment is only indicative**. Examiners are not bound by their preliminary assessment of the thesis and their recommendation may change as a result of the oral examination of the candidate. It is the Examiners’ Joint Report and Outcome form, not the Independent Preliminary Report forms, that will constitute the candidate’s result.

My preliminary assessment of the written thesis is that **(tick one option only)**:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | It fulfils the criteria for the research degree (listed above and in paragraph 11 of [Regulation XXVI](https://www.lboro.ac.uk/governance/regulations/26/current/)) and – subject to the candidate’s performance at the oral examination – should be **passed** subject to any amendments that are required.Following the oral examination, examiners can recommend that a thesis should be passed with: no amendments required; minor amendments required (to be completed within 2 months); modest amendments required (to be completed within 6 months). |

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|  | It is inadequate in one or more criteria for the research degree (listed above and in paragraph 11 of [Regulation XXVI](https://www.lboro.ac.uk/governance/regulations/26/current/)) and – subject to the candidate’s performance at the oral examination – should be **referred** with permission to submit a revised thesis within 12 months.Following the oral examination, examiners can recommend whether the candidate should be required to attend a further oral examination.*Note that if this is an oral examination following a ‘Refer’ outcome and the resubmission of a thesis, this recommendation* ***may not*** *be selected.* |

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|  | It fails to meet the criteria for the research degree (listed above and in paragraph 11 of [Regulation XXVI](https://www.lboro.ac.uk/governance/regulations/26/current/)), and – subject to the candidate’s performance at the oral examination – should be **failed**.Following the oral examination, examiners can recommend that a thesis should be failed: and awarded the degree of Master of Philosophy without amendments; and awarded the degree of Master of Philosophy with minor or modest amendments; and that re-submission of the thesis is not permitted. |

**If the Examiner feels unable to reach a preliminary assessment prior to the oral examination, this must be stated and explained below:**

**Part 3: Examiner’s signature**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of examiner** |  | **External examiner/internal examiner**(delete as appropriate) |
| **Signature** |  |
| **University/School** |  |
| **Date** |  |