For students entering prior to August 2008: Students can choose between the portfolio assessment format (as outlined below) or the regular format.

For students beginning August 2008: All students will be required to submit the portfolio (as outlined below) for their comprehensive examination.

The Comprehensive Examination for the QREM program consists of two primary components. The first is the development of a portfolio that will demonstrate each student’s specific training and coursework within QREM as well as their professional development as a researcher. The second component of the comprehensives is an oral defense. Contents of the portfolio will be negotiated with the student’s advisor. The portfolio is submitted and defended orally to the student’s advisory committee (4 members, at least two of whom must be from QREM), who are responsible for overseeing the comprehensive examination and evaluating the student. Preparation of the portfolio should begin during or following the second year of graduate study.

The portfolio is designed to represent or showcase each student’s full academic experience within the QREM program at OSU. At least four products are required for the comprehensive examination portfolio, as shown below.

A. Required documents
   • Current CV
   • Minimum five-page pre-proposal for the dissertation

B: Professional Preparation (minimum of one product from this section) (for at least one professional preparation product, the student must be the first author and leader of the study) (indicate the % of student contribution for each product)
   • Peer-reviewed publication
   • Paper submitted for publication
   • Presentation or poster accepted for presentation at a regional/national conference

C: Academic Coursework and Preparation for the Dissertation (minimum of one product from this section) (indicate the % of student contribution for each product)
   • Project (e.g., software program, assessment device) or final course paper of exceptional quality
   • Literature review on a topic decided between the student and the major advisor
   • Pilot study to guide preparation of the student’s dissertation (report submitted as publication-ready or APA style)

Thus the portfolio represents the written portion of the comprehensive examination, subsequently followed by the scheduled oral examination. Structure and focus of the oral examination will be decided by the student’s committee as well as being based on the particular portfolio elements submitted. The standards will be the same as that of a traditional comprehensive exam.