



## Required Committees during PhD Study

### 1. Mentoring Committee

Your mentoring committee has your major professor and two additional committee members who are specialists in your field of research to provide disciplinary expertise and advice. The graduate advisor is seldom a member of a mentoring committee.

### 2. Graduate Advisor

The graduate advisor checks to make sure each student has met all requirements, etc. The graduate advisors as a group determine the individuals to be forwarded to the Graduate Dean for the Qualifying Exam after considering input from the student and his/her mentoring committee.

### 3. Qualifying Exam Committee

The qualifying examination committee members are nominated to the Graduate Dean and appointed by Graduate Dean. Students should assume that some members will not be their choice and that one member must be from outside the group. Major professors may not be on the qualifying examination committee but other members of the mentoring committee may be on the qualifying examination committee. More details are available in the ABG and the Graduate Council policies on the Qualifying Examination.

### 4. Dissertation Committee

After passing the qualifying examination, the student chooses the dissertation committee in conjunction with the major professor. Naming the dissertation committee is the major part of the process of advancement to candidacy after passing the qualifying examination. The dissertation committee consists of the major professor and two other faculty members.

Additional Reference: Graduate Council Policy on Service on Advanced Degree Committees GC1998-01 (rev. 02) October 9, 2006

[http://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/gradcouncil/advanced\\_degree\\_committees.pdf](http://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/gradcouncil/advanced_degree_committees.pdf)