

Who is present at the oral examination?

The following people are to be present at the oral examination (either in person or via video-link):

The Examination Chair: the chair is a senior member of the UC academic staff who is responsible for organizing the oral examination, maintaining the integrity of the oral examination process and acting as a neutral chair at the examination. The chair is nominated at the same time as the thesis examiners.

The candidate

The Senior Supervisor: if the senior supervisor is unavailable then another member of the supervisory team may attend in their place. The supervisor can participate in the examination only to the extent permitted by the chair . they are not to act as an advocate for the candidate or to answer questions on behalf of the candidate

Oral examiner: one of the two examiners of is nominated as the oral examiner. The second examiner will not normally attend the oral examination.

Observers:

The candidate is permitted to invite up to two persons to attend the oral examination as observers. These support persons cannot participate in the examination in any form.

An academic who has not acted as an oral chair may be present as an observer of the oral chair as part of their academic development. This person is would not normally be expected to participate in the examination.

What are the possible outcomes of the examination?

At the end of the oral examination the chair will ask everybody to leave the room (or disconnect from the video-link) while the oral examiner decides on the recommended outcome of the examination. This recommendation is made to the Dean of Postgraduate Research via the Oral Examination Recommendation Form. The recommendation options are detailed below.

(a)