

General Guidelines for Candidacy Exam Presentation (DBV4005)
and Thesis Project (DBV4006)
Doctoral Program in Plant Biotechnology

The Candidacy Examination of the Doctoral Program in Plant Biotechnology assesses the competences acquired by the students in the disciplinary area of the program, in its theoretical and methodological components, and transcends the scope of its research proposal. It will be evaluated by the Nominated Candidacy Committee, which will be conformed by national or international faculties designated by the Head of the Program. Thesis directors (or co-directors) may not be present at this instance. The formulation and evaluation of the exam will be the responsibility of the Candidacy Committee, which must assess the student's knowledge and critical analysis capacity regarding the subjects related to the area and the research proposal of his Thesis (Thesis Project).

After approval, future instances will be evaluated by the Thesis Committee, which will be constituted by the Candidacy Committee and supervising academics (Thesis Directors). One of the academics will be the Coordinator of the Committee, which will be responsible for ensuring the proper process and development of the evaluation activities (annual monitoring activities, Private and Public Defense), and for the signing of the respective minutes and the report of the evaluation.

Presentation:

1. The candidacy exam and thesis project are evaluated in a single instance (mixed).
2. The student will have a maximum of 20 minutes to present the Thesis Project.
3. Each member of the Committee may ask the student questions in a free format.
4. The exam has a maximum duration of approximately 2 hours. Then the student will leave the room.
5. Each member of the Committee, will classify the Thesis Project at the end of the exam as approved (A), pending (P) (that correspond to approved with observations) or failed (R).
6. Also, each member of the committee must grade the Candidacy Exam with a score from 1.0 to 7.0. Where 1.0 is the minimum and the minimum approval score is 4.0.
7. If the Candidacy exam or the project is failed, the student may take it again, once, within the term established by the Candidacy Committee and after complying with the requirements that the Committee may indicate. If they fail again, the student will be expelled from the doctoral program.
8. The coordinator will complete the Candidacy Examination and Thesis Project Minutes, with the scores delivered by the members of the Committee.
9. If the Committee approves with observations, these must be explicitly indicated in the Minutes.
10. Finally, the student re-enter to the room and the Coordinator communicates the result.