**Guide to MBSE Ph.D. Dissertation Defense (for both 2019 and 2020 students)**

**Timing**

The defense of the dissertation is anticipated after about 5 years. See, for example, <https://engineeringgrads.ucmerced.edu/academics/doctorate/phd-sample-timeline>. Students entering the MBSE program with a Masters degree are expected to complete their degree sooner than students arriving without a Masters degree.

**General information**

Please go to https://engineeringgrads.ucmerced.edu/academics/doctorate/phd-dissertation-defense-exam-and-filing for general information.

**MBSE-specific information**

The MBSE Policies and Procedures provide full information about the defense of the dissertation and can be downloaded at <https://mbse.ucmerced.edu/current-students/forms>.

**Conduct of the Exam:**

Please go to https://engineeringgrads.ucmerced.edu/academics/doctorate/phd-dissertation-defense-exam-and-filing for conduct of the exam or to the MBSE Policies and Procedures (see previous paragraph).

**MBSE goals for successful students:**

The MBSE Graduate Program is designed to comprehensively support student development. The rubric that is used to assess the success of the program and the success of the student in achieving MBSE’s goals can be found at: https://tinyurl.com/wcc7rco.