

### **6.7.1 Doctoral Proficiency Exam (for PhD only)**

Prior to entering candidacy, the student must successfully pass the Doctoral Proficiency Exam (DPE). The purpose of the exam is to articulate the knowledge accumulated throughout coursework. This written exam is scheduled near the end of coursework. The specific dates are posted in the NURS 6337 syllabus as students enrolled in NURS 6337 are those eligible to take the exam. The final two weeks of the semester are dedicated to the exam. The processes are as follows:

1. Students receive the DPE packet via their patriot email account.
2. The packet includes research articles and guidelines for completion of the DPE.
3. Two weeks are allotted for completion of the exam.
4. During this time, the only person to whom questions may be addressed is the PhD Program Director.
5. Students may not discuss the exam or consult one another during the DPE time frame.
6. Exams are returned to the designated administrative assistant by the due date, which is included in the DPE instructions.
7. Late submissions are not accepted.
8. Following submission, de-identified papers are sent by the administrative assistant to 2-3 faculty to grade.
9. Faculty submit grades for the anonymous papers back to the administrative assistant who compiles the results, which are shared with the PhD Program Director after the due date has passed.
10. Results will be emailed to students within two weeks from the due date for submission.