# MTC Literature examination: Guidelines

Our PhD Students are required to have a detailed knowledge of not only their specific research projects and should also possess a broader understanding of the relevant research areas.

To achieve this goal the student undergoes an oral examination by a senior scientist or professor at MTC. The list of examiners appointed by the MTC Research Committee may be obtained from the Educational Administrator.

The examination should be completed **before** the half time control or the Licentiate examination. The exam is based on **one** of the following books below for the different research areas. You should preferably choose the latest edition but please confirm this with your examiner.

## Immunology and Infection Biology

* 1. Murray et al., *Medical microbiology*
  2. Engleberg et al., *Schaechter’s Mechanisms of Microbial Disease*
  3. Abbas & Lichtman, *Basic Immunology*
  4. Murphy, *Janeway's Immunology*

## Cancer and Cell biology

* 1. Weinberg, *The biology of Cancer*
  2. Tannock & Hill, *The basic science of oncology*
  3. Alberts et al., *Molecular Biology of the Cell*

1. **Molecular Biology**
   1. *The Nucleus*, Edited by Ana Pombo, Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine; Martin W. Hetzer, Salk Institute for Biological Studies; Tom Misteli, National Cancer Institute, NIH
   2. *Genome Organization and Function in the Cell Nucleus*, edited by Dr. Karsten Rippe

For other research areas please consult your supervisor and the Director of studies for the relevant literature.

Please see below for further instructions and the form.

# MTC Literature examination: Why and How

The literature exam gives the students the opportunity to examine and further understand the subject area that he/she is working in. The exam, in the form of a discussion, is designed to ensure that our PhD students have the necessary knowledge and skills to succeed in their research program. Preparation for these exams, which includes both deepening subject matter knowledge and refining presentation skills, is a valuable part of a student's education.

Students may start to prepare for the exam after the first yearly follow-up. This will give them ample time to master the basics of the subject, without feeling stressed.

**This exam is one way to aid and prepare students for the assessment, both written and oral, that takes place during the half-time review.**

Learning Outcomes for the student

1. Comprehension of the subject or topic covered by the literature.
2. To be able to apply this knowledge to current research questions and problems.
3. To be able to apply this knowledge to critically analyse concepts, data, and paradigms in this field of research.
4. To be able to link the concepts within this research area to other related fields, if and when possible.

What is expected of the Examiner

This examination should be more of a discussion between two scientists in a balanced and transparent manner. When necessary, the examiner is asked to provide constructive feedback.

Essentially, the examiner is requested:

1. To assess the ability of the student to understand and interpret concepts, theories, and ideas in the field, based on the selected literature.
2. To use the knowledge gained from the literature to solve or analyse problems and issues related to the student’s own research or in the broader field.
3. To encourage students to integrate information from the literature and other sources to comprehensively understand the topic.
4. To prompt the students to communicate his/her understanding of the subject in a clear and articulate manner.
5. To determine if the student can link the underlying concepts in the literature to other disciplines or fields of study.

**Upon completion of the examination please complete the Book/Literature examination form below. The form should then be handed in to the Educational Administrator.**

# MTC Book/Literature examination: Form

|  |
| --- |
| Name of student |
| Title of the book |
| Name of Main Supervisor |
| Name of examiner |
| Date for examination |

This is to verify that the student has been examined on the basic knowledge of his/her subject according to the study plan.

Please tick one of the choices below:

Passed Failed

**Signatures**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Student |  | Main Supervisor |
| Examiner |  | Director of Postgraduate Studies |

**Send the form to the Educational administrator when it is signed by all parties**.