Transition to Stage A – Guidelines

Credit Points:

1. Completion of **30.5** credit points, which must include the courses in **three Mandatory Topics** (minimum grade of 80 in each topic) and the **M.Sc. Seminar**. Please note that only one Active Participation course can be included.
2. Choose the courses you wish to include in your M.Sc. and fill the attached Excel document, according to your latest official grades transcript. If you have more credit points than 30.5, choose the courses that maximize your M.Sc. average grade (but include the three mandatory topics).
3. Meet the Ph.D. Coordinator to finalize the process.

Preliminary research proposal:

Requirements for the preliminary research proposal (Stage A):

1. The preliminary research proposal should describe the questions that you plan to address in your proposed research. It should contain the following sections:
   1) A **Title** in English and in Hebrew.
   2) A short **Abstract**.
   3) An **Introduction** or background section, briefly describing the state of the art in the research subject.
   4) A section describing the **research question(s)** or **goal(s)**, specifically detailing how this goal goes beyond current knowledge.
   5) A very preliminary **Results** section that demonstrates that you are on the way to mastering the required techniques for addressing the research questions or goals.
2. The expected length of the research proposal is 3 pages (including everything). Longer proposal will also be considered. However, they must not exceed the length restrictions of the full (Stage B) research proposal, namely 13 pages, excluding bibliography, tables charts and images.
3. The preliminary research proposal must be signed both by you and by your advisor(s).
Qualification Exam:

Once you submit your finalized preliminary research proposal to the Ph.D Coordinator, the Qualification Exam will be scheduled with the Stage A committee members.

The Qualification Exam will include the following parts:

1. A presentation of your research proposal (approximately 20 minutes).
2. A week before the exam, three exam questions will be emailed to you. Prepare a presentation addressing these questions (approximately 10-15 minutes per question).
3. The Stage A committee will forward its decision to The Authority for Research Students.

You must bring 3 printed copies of your preliminary research proposal to the Qualification Exam.

Registering with the Authority for Research Students:

1. Once your research proposal is confirmed, please register at The Authority for Research Students: in Hebrew or English.
2. The Authority for Research Students will send an official confirmation letter affirming your status as a doctoral student.

*** If you are holding a TA position, make sure Human Resources receives this confirmation letter.

These regulations are subject to change at the discretion of ELSC Teaching committee.