

**Case Western Reserve University  
Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing**

**PhD Program  
Objectives for Candidacy Exam**

To demonstrate competencies during the candidacy examination, the doctoral students will be expected to discuss questions that require them to:

1. Analyze issues related to the development of nursing knowledge.
2. Critique the range of methods and study designs found in nursing research.
3. Analyze principles of measurement relative to the application of measurement techniques.
4. Critique data analysis methods, including statistical and qualitative methods.
5. Synthesize theoretical and empirical knowledge from the substantive area of the proposed research.
6. Synthesize the theoretical frameworks and linkages foundational to the proposed area of research.
7. Evaluate ethical implications related to human and animal subjects.
8. Assess the application of probable results of the proposed research to nursing knowledge, practice, policy, and research.
9. Critique research considerations for health policy as it relates to health equity and health disparities (e.g., social, cultural, political, ethical, and economic perspectives).

**Please note: There is no need for you to supply any refreshments for committee members during or after the candidacy exam, proposal defense or your final dissertation defense.**