Final Oral Examination for SHS Graduate Students  
Non-Thesis Track/Case Studies

**Structure of final oral examination**
- Length of exam: 1½ hours
- Length of student presentation: 20 minutes/case
- Format of exam presentation: PowerPoint
- Dates for the exam: October through March 31 during the final year of graduate school.
- Content: Oral examination will include case presentations, questions about case presentations, and questions covering the nine major KASA content areas outlined on page 5 of the Curriculum Planning Guide.

**Committee members and timeline**
Students selecting the Non-Thesis/Case Study Final Oral Exam option will be assigned a faculty advisor (committee chair) and two other committee members for their oral examination during their second semester of graduate school. All students must file their Program in the second semester of graduate school. Refer to page 5 of the Curriculum Planning Guide for additional information.

**Instructions to graduate student**
Prepare two case studies of patients you have seen in clinic, practicum, or internship. You must know the background of the cases you select. Select patients of varied ages who present with different disorders (e.g. pediatric autism, adult swallowing, adolescent TBI). At minimum, one case should be related to your primary area of interest and the population you hope to work with after graduate school. Work with your committee chair to obtain approval of the final draft of your case presentation PowerPoint. Once your chair has approved your presentation and signed the final examination scheduling form, obtain the signatures of your other committee members and submit the form to the Graduate School at least two weeks prior to your oral examination. Then, at least five (5) week days prior to your scheduled oral examination, provide your final PowerPoint presentation and copies of relevant articles to all members of your committee. The PowerPoint presentation you provide committee members must include all components listed below; however, your 20 minutes/case oral presentation should include a brief background and focus on assessment, treatment, and what you would do the same and what you would change (see below). An example of a case presentation is on the flashdrive on the duck in the clinic prep room.

Case studies must include:

- Background
  - Gender
  - Age
  - Cultural & linguistic considerations
  - Reason for referral
- Therapy history
- Prior progress in therapy

- Assessment
  - Resources utilized at this point (e.g., journal articles, class notes, textbooks, etc.)
  - Results and interpretation of assessment, including diagnosis

- Treatment plan
  - Resources utilized at this point (e.g., journal articles, class notes, textbooks, etc.)
  - Relation of assessment results and treatment plan to International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF)
  - Goals and objectives
    - Evidence base and rationale for each goal and objective
  - Methods for addressing your goals and objectives and rationale for these methods.
    - Cite supporting literature
    - Provide committee with copies of relevant, primary journal article(s)

- Treatment results
  - Goals and objectives met/partially met/unmet

- End of semester recommendations
  - Did you discharge the patient?
    - If so, provide a rationale
    - If not, what recommendations did you make for continuing treatment?

- Personal reflection
  - What did you do well with this client?
  - What would you do differently?
    - Justify those differences.
  - How would you apply what you learned from this case to future cases?

- References
  - Final slide for each case should include a reference list of a minimum of 10 journal articles per case study and any additional applicable resources (e.g., book chapters, etc.)