

University of Maryland Department of Entomology

**QUALIFYING EXAMINATION FOR ADMISSION TO CANDIDACY
FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**

Directions to Student:

1. Fill out the left side of this form, then have your advisor and the Graduate Director sign at the bottom left column.
2. At the completion of the examination, your committee members should sign in the right-hand column and register their votes.
3. The completed form should be given to the Graduate Coordinator (umdentomology@umd.edu, 4112 Plant Sciences Building). The original will be placed in your file and copies will be given to you and your committee members.

Departmental requirements for the qualifying examination are on the back of this form

BEFORE THE EXAM	AT THE COMPLETION OF THE EXAM																								
Student Name: _____ Expected Exam Date: _____ Title of Proposal: _____	Actual Date of Exam: _____																								
Recommended Committee Members Printed Names	Committee Member Signatures																								
1. _____ <i>(Committee Chair)</i>	1. _____ <i>(Committee Chair)</i>																								
2. _____	2. _____																								
3. _____	3. _____																								
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6. _____	6. _____																								
<p style="color: red; font-size: small; text-align: center;"><i>N/A - Signature in Committee Member Signature Section certifies that this form is ready for review by the Graduate Director</i></p> _____ Advisor's Signature	<p>* A vote of yes indicates that the student has the necessary preliminary training and has demonstrated the ability to successfully pursue the PhD degree in the Department of Entomology.</p>																								
_____ Graduate Director's Signature	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 70%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">Vote*</th> <th style="width: 20%;"></th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Yes</th> <th style="text-align: center;">No</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">1. _____</td> <td style="text-align: center; width: 10%;"> </td> <td style="text-align: center; width: 20%;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">2. _____</td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">3. _____</td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">4. _____</td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">5. _____</td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">6. _____</td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Vote*			Yes	No	1. _____			2. _____			3. _____			4. _____			5. _____			6. _____		
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PhD Qualifying Examination
Department of Entomology
University of Maryland

Guidelines

This examination is a departmental requirement of all students enrolled in the PhD program. It is administered orally by the study committee with the student's faculty advisor as the chair. The examination is open to all faculty and all attending faculty may question the student; however, only the study committee will vote. Two or more negative votes constitutes a failure. The student has two chances to qualify. Under special circumstances, if requested by the student, the study committee can elect to administer a written examination.

The qualifying examination must be taken within **6 semesters** of matriculation in the PhD program and at least **one academic year** before the date on which the degree is conferred. The department strongly urges students to take the examination during their 4th or 5th semester, at which point they will have completed most course work. Failure to successfully take the examination within the time limit results in special review by the Graduate Affairs Committee.

The student must complete the Admission to Candidacy form and obtain required signatures prior to the examination date. The student must also provide each member of his/her committee with a copy of the dissertation research proposal **ten days** prior to the examination. To ensure that all committee members understand the purpose of the qualifying exam in advance, the student must have these guidelines signed by his/her faculty advisor and attached to the proposal submitted to each committee member.

Purpose

The qualifying exam is not intended to focus solely on the dissertation area. It should also 1) test intensely the depth of the student's knowledge in his/her areas of expertise, 2) examine the student's ability to think, synthesize, and integrate information from the disciplines of entomology and biology in general, and 3) evaluate the student's ability to produce a defensible proposal and actually do the proposed research. Major flaws in the proposed research found at the time of the qualifying exam may also constitute failure. In addition, the Graduate School guidelines state that the PhD is granted only upon sufficient evidence of high attainment in scholarship and the ability to engage in independent research. It is not awarded for the completion of course and seminar requirements no matter how successful.

Faculty Advisor Printed Name

N/A - Signature in Committee Member Signature Section certifies that you have read, understand, and agree with the Guidelines and Purpose described on this page

Faculty Advisor Signature

Date