Entomology Checklist for A-Exam Progress

Year 1

- Complete the two required courses (ENTOM 2120, ENTOM 7670)
- Form your full committee (2 members for MS, 3 members for PhD). Enter in Student Center
- Have first annual committee meeting to discuss plan of action for A-Exam and present plans for research (thesis pitch in written and oral form). This is the first milestone toward the MS/PhD (send form with progress update, student’s career goals, and comments from all committee members to DGS. Students will be evaluated annually on progress and career goals).

Year 2

- Meet with the full committee 3 months before the A exam to discuss dates and materials that will be covered and format for written exam. The exam contains both oral and written components.

- The exam begins with a brief oral presentation on what the student proposes to do, with questions, hypotheses, predictions, and proposed methods to be followed by a discussion/debate on the biological premises of the project. The format of this brief presentation will be determined during the committee meeting 3 months earlier. Possibilities may range from a 10 to 20-minute PowerPoint presentation, a three-slide condensed overview, a slide-less presentation, etc.

- Choices for the written component include the following:
  - Novel proposal developed by the student
  - Novel manuscript/ literature review developed by the student
  - Essay of a topic of the committee’s selection
  - Multiple topics based on a question from each committee member
  - Written exam: Open ended questions and the format should be decided during the pre-meeting

  For proposals, manuscripts, literature reviews and essays, there should be a limit of no more than 20 pages relevant to the topic and including appropriate citations.

1 Month before Exam

- Reserve room/s with GFA

7-10 days before Exam

- Submit written component to all members of the committee
- Have scheduling form completed and turned into GFA
- Have exam schedule poster completed and turned into GFA
Exam Day
_____ Bring results form to exam and have full committee sign off. Return this form to GFA within 3 days.

*Note: In the case of a conditional pass, clear guidelines need to be provided on the format and content of any reassessment.

7-10 days after exam
All committee members need to provide written comments to the students:
- on the written component of the exam
- strengths of the student
- weaknesses of the student
- areas of improvement
- suggested courses