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FORWARD

This graduate student handbook is intended as a supplement to, rather than a replacement for, official university publications such as the Boise State University Graduate Catalog, and the Standards for Preparation of Dissertations, Theses & Projects. It is the purpose of this handbook to provide students and faculty with information concerning the policies of the Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior (EEB) program. While efforts are made to keep this handbook current, it is the student’s responsibility to keep informed of changes in the College of Graduate Studies regulations. Careful planning at the outset of your graduate program is important for you to complete degree requirements in a timely manner. We hope that this handbook will be a helpful guide to new and continuing graduate students and to faculty who serve as advisors.

Additional Resources:

- [Graduate College Homepage](#)
- [Graduate Catalog](#) (download the graduate catalog specific to your enrollment date in graduate program)
- [Academic Calendar](#) (download the academic calendar a complete list of deadlines)

DESCRIPTION OF PH.D. IN ECOLOGY, EVOLUTION, AND BEHAVIOR DEGREE

The Ph.D. in Ecology, Evolution and Behavior is a research-based degree. Admission to the program is based upon the compatibility of the applicant’s research interests with those of a prospective major advisor, the availability of support (assistantships), and the applicant’s academic preparation and promise. Students admitted in the Ph.D. program are expected to produce a written dissertation based on original research carried out by the student. The dissertation should make significant contributions to the body of scientific knowledge and be of sufficient quality to warrant publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals. Following completion of the dissertation, the student is required to give a public presentation of the dissertation and successfully pass an oral defense of the work.

DEPARTMENT, MAJOR ADVISOR, AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The EEB program and home department of a doctoral student will provide the necessary tools and the environment for the student’s growth and professional development. The major advisor has the primary responsibility for day-to-day mentoring and professional development of their students. The student, not the major advisor or the department, is responsible for meeting all deadlines and academic requirements and for initiating a process of regular communication with the major professor and supervisory committee. The student is responsible for his/her own program, which includes:

- Initiating regular communication and meetings with the major advisor.
- Working with the major advisor to ensure that all degree requirements are met in a timely manner.
- Meeting with the supervisory committee as early as possible to discuss research and academic goals. Continuing to meet with the supervisory committee on a regular basis (e.g., once per semester) to update them on your activities. At the very least, communicate with committee members regularly.
- Planning adequate and appropriate amounts of time each semester for research activities, course work, and (if applicable) teaching. Full time graduate students should expect to devote a minimum
of 40 hours per week on these activities, although in some cases more time may be needed, and on a schedule dictated by the needs of the research.

- Professional development activities such as attending scientific conferences, presenting conferences papers, presenting seminars, and writing scientific papers for publication are highly encouraged and recommended.
- Preparing drafts (proposals, dissertation chapters, manuscripts) in consultation with major advisor prior to sending them to committee members. Drafts should be grammatically correct and free of typographical and spelling errors.

**ADMINISTERING THE DOCTORAL PROGRAM**

**Application and Admittance**

Students wishing to enter Ph.D. program in Ecology, Evolution and Behavior must submit to the Graduate Admissions Office an online application for graduate admission along with a, non-refundable $65 ($95 for international students) application fee. The application deadline is January 15th each year. Applications are reviewed once each year for admission starting in the fall semester.

Applicants must hold a baccalaureate or masters (recommended) degree, preferably in field closely related to ecology, evolution, or behavior, from an accredited university or college. Submission of GRE scores (verbal, quantitative, and written assessment) is also required. GRE scores are used in combination with other application materials as an additional indication of the applicant’s potential for success in a graduate program. Provisional enrollment is sometimes granted to otherwise promising applicants who do not meet GPA or GRE requirements or who have undergraduate course work deficiencies. Students enrolled provisionally must fulfill specific conditions before being advanced to regular enrollment. Regular enrollment is required to graduate.

**Submission of Application Materials**

The EEB PhD Program processes online applications through Hobson’s ApplyYourself. Please read the application instructions carefully. The Hobson’s ApplyYourself Program is available year-round for receiving application materials. Applicants are encouraged to submit their online application well in advance of the deadline to ensure that the application is complete by the January 15 deadline.

The following items are required for your EEB application.

1. **GRE scores** – please request that official scores for the GRE general test are sent to Boise State. The subject GRE is not required.
2. **Transcripts** - please request official copies of all undergraduate and graduate transcripts be sent to Boise State.
3. **Curriculum vitae (CV)** – please provide a CV that outlines your education, skills, and professional experience.
4. **Letters of recommendation** - Three letters of recommendation are required. Applicants should notify their recommenders using the "Recommendation Provider List" button in ApplyYourself.
5. **Cover letter** - see instructions below.
6. **Identify interest in graduate faculty advisor / research labs** - Please identify 1-3 labs where you are interested conducting research by listing the potential faculty advisor(s) on your application. A list of EEB advisors is available on the program website (https://eeb.boisestate.edu/). Note that all faculty will review all applications, so you may be contacted by faculty you do not list, but who see you as a good candidate for their lab.
7. Pay the **application fee**. Application fees cannot be waived. **TOEFL or IELTS scores** – required for international applicants only.

Please write a **cover letter** of no more than 750 total words that includes:

- A description of your overall **academic interests and goals**. *Why* do you seek graduate training? What are your career goals? Why are you applying to *this* program?
- A description of your **specific scientific interests**. This is a great place to describe your motivation to further your training in science and research in your chosen field. Also, describe why your selected research labs are a good fit with your interests.
- A summary of your **previous research experience** or jobs involving laboratory or field work that cannot be seen from your CV.
- Please describe a situation where **problem solving** and **creativity** helped you overcome a challenge or obstacle.
- If needed, please request to be considered for a graduate assistantship in your cover letter.

For questions or additional information, please contact: EEBprogram@boisestate.edu

After circulation, the application file is reviewed by the EEB GSC to select for an admission (either acceptance or denial) and financial support recommendation. Applicants are recommended for acceptance to the Ecology, Evolution and Behavior doctoral program only if they appear qualified academically, a major advisor is identified and willing, and funding is available through a research award, fellowship, or graduate assistantship.

The admission recommendation made by the EEB GSC is then forwarded to the Graduate Admissions Office for review. An admission decision is not official until approved by the Graduate College.

**On-campus Visit**
The EEB GSC will invite a group of applicants for on-campus visits in March. On-campus visits will provide time for prospective students to meet with faculty, staff and graduate students, tour campus and facilities, and learn more about the graduate program.

**Registration**
Students should plan to register each semester including summer (if research is being conducted in summer months), even when working exclusively on research. Students should register for dissertation credits (EEB 693) continuously until their degree program is completed, unless the student is not utilizing faculty time or department facilities. A student must be registered in at least one credit of study during the semester in which they defend their dissertation. Students receiving a graduate assistantship must enroll in at least 9, but preferably 12 credits, per semester (including EEB 693 dissertation credits). Approval from the program coordinator is required for students to enroll in more than 13 credits in a semester.

**International Students**
International students must comply with and keep abreast of current rules and regulations of the US Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Please refer any questions you have about such rules and regulations to the International Admissions Coordinator at INTERNL@boisestate.edu, or visit the International Students website.
New Student Orientation

All new graduate students are required to attend a program orientation meeting held at the beginning of the fall semester. At this time, program faculty and staff will be available to review program policy, give helpful hints on how to be successful in graduate school, and answer questions. After an introductory meeting about the graduate program, students will pick up their keys and ID proxy cards, complete necessary training, receive a desk or office space, and a representative from Human Resources will help new employees complete necessary paperwork. New teaching assistants will be required to attend additional orientation events to become familiar with their teaching responsibilities.

Contacting Students via Email

Students are responsible for checking their Boise State University email account for messages and announcements regarding the graduate program and teaching assistantships. If you prefer to use an alternative email address (e.g., hotmail, gmail, etc), please have your Boise State email automatically forwarded to that account. Also make sure that those forwarded messages are not being quarantined as spam by your email server.

Appointment of Major Advisor

The major advisor assumes the primary responsibility for day-to-day mentoring and professional development of their students. This individual is identified during the review of the student's graduate application and must be in place prior to admission. To chair a graduate committee, the major advisor must either be a member of the university’s graduate faculty, or an adjunct or member of the graduate faculty with a departmental endorsement to chair dissertation committees. Students with an off-campus advisor must have an on-campus co-advisor to assist the student with space needs and academic procedures. Final approval of major advisor selection is confirmed by the Graduate College.

Appointment of Graduate Supervisory Committee

The Supervisory Committee is charged with general guidance of the doctoral student, including design and approval of the program of study, administration of the comprehensive examination, supervision of the dissertation research, and participation in the dissertation defense. The Supervisory Committee consists of a major advisor who serves as chair, and at least three additional members, two of whom must be members of the University regular or research faculty. All members must be members Graduate Faculty. Additional members may be appointed when necessary. A majority of the committee membership must hold appointments in one of the academic units of the EEB (Departments of Biological Sciences, Anthropology, Geosciences, and Human Environmental Systems). Students are encouraged to have at least one member of their committee who is external to the advisor’s department.

Students should form a Supervisory Committee during their first semester of enrollment in the graduate program. Composition of the committee should be based on a reasonable match between student and faculty academic interest. Selection of the committee typically begins with the graduate student and major advisor agreeing on appropriate committee membership. The student then contacts and meets with potential members to determine their availability to serve on the committee. Once a committee has been identified, a Supervisory Committee Appointment form must be completed. The form will then be routed to the program and the Dean of the Graduate College for approval. The graduate dean can either appoint the recommended committee or solicit an alternative recommendation from the program. A change in membership of the committee can be made after its appointment, but only in accordance with program policies and the approval of the Graduate College.
Student Mentoring and Assessment

- **Planning of academic course work** – Students will work with their major advisor and committee to complete a Program Development Form (PDF) that identifies the calendar of course work necessary for students to complete their degree requirements. Each student’s PDF is updated on an annual basis, providing an opportunity for the advisor and student to review the plan and make corrections, additions, etc., as necessary. Once approval for the study plan and research are obtained, the completed Program Development Form should be returned to the director of graduate studies for inclusion in the student’s file.

- **Evaluation of the dissertation proposal** – Students must submit to their Supervisory Committee a dissertation proposal describing in sufficient detail the proposed scope of work, anticipated scientific impact, timeline, and a plan for obtaining and utilizing the resources necessary to complete the research. A complete draft of the dissertation proposal must be submitted by the second week of the third semester. The draft proposal is evaluated by the committee and returned to the student with comments and suggestions for revision (if necessary). Then, the student will be required to present a 30-minute oral proposal presentation followed by 15-20 minutes for questions. A final dissertation proposal must be submitted by the end of the third semester. A copy of the dissertation proposal and the committee’s evaluation/comments is placed in the student’s departmental file.

- **Progress and competency in graded coursework** – How students perform in the classroom will provide a direct metric of progress and achievement – particularly in the early portion of the program when much of the required course work is typically taken by students.

- **The Comprehensive Examination** - The comprehensive exam represents a significant milestone and an important assessment tool for monitoring the extent to which students have assimilated information from various sources and integrated it into a comprehensive knowledge of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior. It has both an oral and written component (discussed in more detail below).

- **Participation in clusters** – Each year, students will be required to identify a cluster for participation. The EEB program will offer 4-6 clusters a year for in-depth learning in an area of EEB. Clusters will be proposed by 2-4 faculty. Clusters may include discussion of interdisciplinary perspectives on EEB topics, common areas of research, or applied problem areas.

- **Dissertation defense** – the culminating activity of the program is the oral presentation and public defense of the dissertation (discussed in more detail below).

Comprehensive Examination

Doctoral students must enroll in and complete a comprehensive examination (EEB 691) prior to the end of their fifth semester in the degree program. The objective of the comprehensive examination is to assess the student’s depth and breadth of knowledge in Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior. The examination, which consists of both a written and oral test, is developed and administered by the student’s Supervisory Committee.

The written portion of the test may consist of either: 1) a review paper on a topic in Ecology, Evolution, or Behavior that has been approved by the Supervisory Committee, or 2) written responses to a series of
questions developed by the Supervisory Committee. The Supervisory Committee, with input from the student, will choose the format for the written portion of the exam.

The supervisory committee will conduct the oral portion of the exam after successful completion of the written portion of the exam. During the oral exam students are expected to demonstrate solid, in-depth, academic knowledge related to Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior. The decision of whether a student passes or fails the comprehensive exam rests with the committee members. If a student fails the initial examination, the committee has the option of allowing a student to repeat the examination one time. If a repeat examination is granted by the Supervisory Committee, it must occur within 3 months of the initial examination. Failure of the Comprehensive Examination will result in dismissal from the Ph.D. program.

Progress Assurance
Each year students must complete a Progress Assurance Form which summarizes the courses taken during the previous year, the grades achieved, and the research accomplishments made over that time period. Students then give the form to their major advisor for comment and approval. Once signed by the major advisor, the form should be returned to the EEB coordinator. If the major advisor indicates that satisfactory progress did not occur, the department’s EEB GSC will investigate the matter further. Completed progress assurance forms are retained in the student’s graduate file.

Admission to Candidacy
Admission to candidacy is required by all degree-seeking graduate students and serves as an important intermediate check that reveals overlooked or misinterpreted program requirements. A student who has not been admitted to candidacy cannot schedule or participate in a final oral examination or apply for graduation. A student may be admitted to candidacy if he/she is in regular status and has satisfactorily completed a set of courses sufficient to meet at least one half of the total credit requirements of the program. Students must submit a completed Application for Admission to Candidacy form prior to the deadline published in the academic calendar (note that this deadline occurs early in the semester preceding the intended semester of graduation). The completed form requires the final exact list of courses that are to be applied to meet the credit requirements of the student’s graduate program. Following department approval, the form will be forwarded to Graduate College for approval. Once the Application for Admission to Candidacy receives approval from the Graduate College, students may apply for graduation on my.BoiseState. Note that an approved Application for Admission to Candidacy is a binding agreement between the student and university. Any subsequent changes to coursework requires approval by the EEB program and the Graduate College. Please consult with the EEB program coordinator.

Dissertation Defense Procedures
A public defense of the dissertation is scheduled after the Supervisory Committee has reviewed a draft that is considered to be nearly a final version. The defense committee consists of the student’s entire supervisory committee plus a graduate faculty representative (GFR). The date of the defense is determined jointly by the Supervisory Committee and the student and must be consistent with any guidelines provided by the Graduate College. The student or major advisor must notify the Graduate College of the defense date by completing a Graduate Defense Notification Form at least two weeks in advance of the defense date. The first part of the defense is a public oral presentation of the dissertation. The second part is a final oral exam with the defense committee. At the conclusion of the oral examination, the GFR calls for a vote by the voting members of the defense committee to determine the examination result which must be either pass or fail. A student who fails the defense may be permitted to try again but failure a second time will result in dismissal from the program.
If the defense is completed with a result of pass, the Supervisory Committee prepares a statement describing final requirements such as additions or modifications to the dissertation and any additional requirements such as archival of data. When these requirements have been met, the approval page of the dissertation is signed by the Chair of the Committee.

The final version of the dissertation must be submitted to the Graduate College for approval by the Dean of Graduate Studies. Before doing so it must conform to the standards of the Graduate College as determined by the dissertation editor. Students should refer to the Standards and Guidelines for Theses and Dissertations manual for instructions on formatting and the type of paper required for official university copies of the dissertation. A Thesis & Dissertation Template is also available for download.

ACADEMIC AND SCHOLASTIC REQUIREMENTS

Credit Requirements
Each doctoral student follows a study plan based on program requirements and on individual career goals. According to Graduate College policies, at least two thirds of the total credit requirement for the degree program must be earned at Boise State University after admission to the graduate program.

Students engaging in any activity requiring faculty time and consultation, or the use of any Boise State facilities, must register for the number of credits appropriate to the degree of activity. Students engaged in any phase of research, such as writing a manuscript or dissertation, must register for such work in the amount reflecting the effort required. All students funded by a graduate assistantship must register for a minimum of 9 credits each fall and spring semester and 1 credit in the summer (if conducting research). All students are required to enroll in the appropriate number of credits during the semester in which their degree requirements are completed.

A minimum of 66 credits is required for the Ph.D. in Ecology, Evolution and Behavior degree. Please see the Graduate Catalog for information on transfer credits from other graduate degrees. Specific curriculum requirements are provided below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Doctor of Philosophy in Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Course Number and Title</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEB 601 Principles and Processes in Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEB 603 Science and Communication I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEB 604 Science and Communication II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEB 605 Current Research in EEB (2 cr)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quantitative Requirement (choose at least 1 course from the following):</strong></td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 504 Statistical Methods in Anthropology (3 cr)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 601 Biometry (4 cr)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 603 Advanced Biometry (4 cr)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEB 607 Quantitative Methods for Population and Habitat Analysis (3 cr)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>EEB 621 Advanced Ecological Data Analysis (3 cr)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOPH 522 Data Analysis and Geostatistics (3 cr)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOS 505 Introduction to Numerical Methods for the Geosciences (3 cr)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Number and Title</td>
<td>Credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEB 601 Principles and Processes in Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEB 603 Science and Communication I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEB 604 Science and Communication II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEB 605 Current Research in EEB (2 cr)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quantitative Requirement</strong> (choose at least 1 course from the following):</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 504 Statistical Methods in Anthropology (3 cr)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 601 Biometry (4 cr)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 603 Advanced Biometry (4 cr)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEB 607 Quantitative Methods for Population and Habitat Analysis (3 cr)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEB 621 Advanced Ecological Data Analysis (3 cr)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOPH 522 Data Analysis and Geostatistics (3 cr)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOS 505 Introduction to Numerical Methods for the Geosciences (3 cr)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATH 572 Computational Statistics (3 cr)</td>
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<td>MATH 573 Time Series Analysis (3 cr)</td>
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<td>MATH 574 Linear Models (3 cr)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Human Behavior and Ecology</strong> (choose 1-2 courses from the following):</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 501 Adaptation And Human Behavior (3 cr)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 502 Human Evolutionary History and Development (3 cr)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 521 Human Paleoecology of North America (3 cr)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 530 Advanced Topics in Evolutionary Anthropology (3 cr)</td>
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<td>ANTH 531 Economic Anthropology (3 cr)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 532 Game Theory and Human Cooperation (3 cr)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRP 502 Economic Applications to Community and Regional Planning (3 cr)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CRP 551 Sustainable Development (3 cr)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Earth Sciences</strong> (choose 1-2 courses from the following):</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 628 Geographic Information Systems in Biology (3 cr)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Doctor of Philosophy in Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior Emphasis in Global Change Biology**
GEOG 570 (GEOS 570) Earth System Science and Global Warming (3 cr)
GEOS 511 Hydrology: Land-Atmosphere Interaction (3 cr)
GEOS 580 Selected Topics in Watershed Hydrology (1-3 cr)
GEOS 585 Selected Topics in Isotope Geoscience (1-3 cr)
GEOS 605 Topics in Geomorphology (3 cr)
GEOS 607 Paleoclimatology and Paleoceanography (3 cr)
GEOS 620 Coupled Land-Atmosphere Modeling (3 cr)
GEOS 621 Global Hydrologic Change (3 cr)
GEOS 633 (CE 633) Contaminant Hydrogeology (3 cr)
GEOS 636 Stable Isotope Geochemistry (3 cr)
GEOS 638 Radiogenic Isotope Geochemistry and Geochronology (3 cr)

Approved elective courses in ANTH, BIOL, BMOL, BOT, EEB, GEOS, ZOOL or related fields as approved by the supervisory committee and by the coordinator of the EEB doctoral program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Description</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EEB 691 Doctoral Comprehensive Examination</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEB 693 Dissertation</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>66</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cumulative GPA Requirements**

All students admitted to the program must meet the cumulative GPA requirements described in this section. A student admitted to the program must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00, including transfer courses. If the cumulative GPA is below 3.00 at the end of the next enrolled semester (including summer), the Graduate College reviews the student’s progress and takes one of the following actions:

1. Remove the student from probation if the cumulative GPA is 3.00 or above.
2. Continue the student on probation if the cumulative GPA is below 3.00 and the semester GPA is 3.00 or above. Students may continue on probation for an unlimited number of semesters but will be ineligible for graduation if their cumulative GPA is below 3.00 at the end of their graduation semester. Students should consult their advisor and the Graduate Program Coordinator for advice and possible options.
3. Dismiss the student from their graduate program and Boise State University if the cumulative GPA is below 3.00 and the semester GPA is below 3.00. Students who are dismissed are administratively withdrawn from their courses and cannot register for classes until they are either reinstated to the graduate program or readmitted to the Graduate College. Students who request reinstatement (following Boise State policy #3090) and are granted reinstatement to the program within 30 calendar days are not required to reapply to the Graduate College. A new online application and application fee is required after 30 days, or when a student’s request for reinstatement is denied.

**Academic Performance at Graduation**

All students enrolled in a degree or certificate program must meet the following academic performance requirements at the end of their final (graduation) semester: (1) cumulative GPA requirement, (2) program GPA requirement, and (3) individual course requirements.
Cumulative GPA Requirements
At the end of the graduation semester a student’s eligibility for graduation will be reviewed using the following guidelines:

- Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or above will be eligible for graduation.
- Students with a cumulative GPA below 3.00 and who were not on probation at the start of the graduation semester will be ineligible for graduation and placed on probation until their cumulative GPA is 3.00 or above. Students should consult their advisor and the Graduate Program Coordinator for advice and possible options.
- Students with a cumulative GPA below 3.00 and who were on probation at the start of the graduation semester will be dismissed from the graduate program and Boise State University.

Academic Performance Requirements
Every student who is admitted to a graduate program must meet three scholastic grade requirements set by the Graduate College:

1) Semester GPA Requirement: A student is required to achieve a minimum GPA of 3.0 each and every semester in which the student is enrolled. If a student fails to meet the semester GPA requirement and the failure is the first occurrence since admission to the program, the student will be placed on academic notice by the college but will be allowed to continue in the program. If a student fails to meet the semester GPA for a second time since admission to the program, the student will be administratively withdrawn from the program by the Graduate College. The withdrawal decision is subject to an appeal process; please discuss your situation with the director of graduate studies.

2) Program GPA Requirement: Students must achieve a program GPA of 3.0 or higher to be eligible for a graduate degree. If a student fails to achieve a program GPA of 3.0 or better, the student is ineligible for a degree and should consult with the director of graduate studies for advice and possible options.

3) Individual Course Requirement: Graduate courses (500 and 600 level) for which a student receives a grade lower than C will not count toward the degree requirements of the program. Undergraduate courses approved for graduate credit, G-level courses, and transfer credits require at least a grade of B to count toward the degree requirements of the program.

A grade of I (Incomplete) is assigned only when extenuating circumstances make it impossible for a student to complete a course before the end of the semester, subject to the requirement that the student has been in attendance and has done satisfactory work up to a time within 3 weeks of the end of the semester. In order to receive an incomplete on a graduate course, the student and instructor must agree to a contract which stipulates the work that is required and the time frame in which it must be completed for the student to receive a grade in the class.

A grade of IP (In Progress) is used for EEB 693 dissertation credits until all aspects of the dissertation are complete. When the dissertation is complete, or when the student ceases to work under the faculty member supervising the research, the IP grade is changed either to Pass (P) or Fail (F). Once a final grade for EEB 693 has been submitted by the major advisor, the Registrar’s Office will adjust all IP grades on the student’s transcript to reflect the new final grade.
Independent Study (EEB 596) and Directed Research (EEB 696)
Subject to the credit restrictions of the degree, students may apply EEB 596 Independent Study and EEB 696 Directed Research to their elective credit requirements.

Independent Study (EEB 596)
Involves the advanced study of a specialized topic. The student works with a high degree of independence to meet well-defined goals under the supervision of a member of the graduate faculty. Credit is variable (1-3) and dependent on the magnitude and scope of the study. Enrolling in EEB 596 requires submission of a completed Application for Graduate Independent Study form prior to the deadline specified in the academic calendar. Approval from the department and Graduate College is required.

Directed Research (EEB 696)
Involves research conducted by the student under the supervision of a member of the graduate faculty. The study requires a clear statement of the hypothesis or proposition, a review of relevant literature, analysis and synthesis of data, and the inference of conclusions. Credit is variable (1-3) and dependent on the magnitude and scope of the study. Students may not apply portions of their dissertation research toward EEB 696 credit, although projects related to the dissertation topic are acceptable. Enrolling in EEB 696 requires submission of a completed Application for Directed Research form prior to the deadline specified in the academic calendar. Approval from the department and Graduate College is required.

Residency Requirement and Duration of Graduate Program
A Ph.D. student must spend at least one academic year in full-time, on campus graduate study at Boise State University. The minimum duration of study for the Ph.D. degree is three academic years beyond the baccalaureate degree. All requirements for a Ph.D. degree, including courses completed at another college or university, must be started and completed within a single continuous interval of no more than ten years.

DEPARTMENT FACILITIES

Graduate Student Desk Space
Faculty may have desk space available for their graduate students. Alternatively, limited desk space is available for graduate students in the Science building. Please contact the Graduate Program Manager for more information about desk availability.

Computers and Printing
For students needing access to computing facilities, a computer lab with access to printing is provided in each academic unit. A username and password is required for printing – please see the department admin assistant for details.

Photocopies and Faxes
A photocopier is available for graduate student use in Science 219. Photocopies should be limited to activities associated with dissertation research, graduate course work, and teaching responsibilities. A fax machine (208-426-1040) is available in the main office of the Department of Biological Sciences. Faxes should be limited to research-related activities. Personal faxes are not permitted.
Mail
Each graduate student has a mailbox located in Science 106 or a building of their choosing. Packages can be picked up in the main office of the Department of Biological Sciences.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Assistantship Support
Graduate assistantships are available on a limited basis to Ph.D. students. These assistantships include a stipend over the twelve months (currently $25,000), a tuition and fee waiver covering the spring and fall semesters and one credit of 693 during summer, and student health insurance. Continued assistantship support is contingent financial need, and program review of performance in teaching, course work, and dissertation research. PhD students may receive a maximum of five year-long graduate assistantships within their first 6 years of the program. Graduate assistants with teaching duties are required to enroll in BIOL 6XX “Intro to College Teaching” in their first fall semester associated with their teaching assignment.

Graduate assistantships with teaching duties are expected to provide up to 20 hours of service per week. Program policy prohibits students on teaching assistantships from accepting additional employment without written approval of the major professor and the program. The permission form can be obtained from the EEB coordinator.

Research assistantships funded by research grants may be available to students. The terms of such assistantships will depend on the amount of funding available. Please consult your major professor for details about such funding opportunities.

Financial Aid
Graduate students can apply for loans and work-study through the federal aid programs. Please consult the Graduate Catalog (available online at the Registrar’s web page) for details on application procedures, or visit the Financial Aid Office website for more information on these programs.

GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

Travel Grants
Doctoral students in good standing may apply for a total of two $600 awards for travel to attend and present their dissertation research at scientific meetings. To be eligible for travel funds the student must submit details of the conference to the Director of Graduate Studies, including the name, date, and location of the conference, a budget, proof that you are presenting research at the conference, and evidence that you have applied for travel assistance if such assistance is offered by the conference organizers. If everything is in order, the director will ask the program manager to begin processing the travel request paperwork. Please note that the awarding of travel grants is contingent on the availability of program funds.

Off campus travel may require permission in the form of an approved Travel Request. Please see the graduate program manager for details on travel procedures.
HOUSING

Many graduate students find off-campus accommodations in the vicinity of Boise State University. For those interested in on-campus accommodations, there are a number of options. For information on-campus housing and application procedures, please refer to the Graduate Catalog or visit the Housing Office website.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of Boise State University to comply with all federal, state and local authorities requiring nondiscrimination, including but not limited to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Executive Orders 12898 (Environmental Justice) and 13166 (Limited English Proficiency). Boise State is an equal opportunity employer. The University does not exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject any individual to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, income, protected veteran status, limited English proficiency, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state or local law.

For more information or if you believe you have been subject to discrimination on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability, please contact Boise State’s Title IX, ADA, and 504 Coordinator: Alicia Estey
Interim Coordinator of Title IX/ADA/504 Compliance
Riverfront Hall, Suite 306
1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725-1500
(208) 426-1258
reportdiscrimination@boisestate.edu

For more information or if you believe you have been subject to discrimination on any other basis, please contact:
Alicia Estey
Interim Coordinator of Title IX/ADA/504 Compliance
Riverfront Hall, Suite 306
1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725-1500
(208) 426-1258
aliciaestey@boisestate.edu

You may also file a complaint with:
U.S. Department of Education
Office of Civil Rights (OCR)
810 3rd Avenue #750
Seattle, WA 98104
(206) 607-1600
OCR.Seattle@ed.gov

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PERSONAL MATTERS

- **Campus Security and Police** – 2245 University Drive, 426-6911
- **Complaints About the Behavior of Another Student** – Contact Office of the Dean of Students, NORCO Building, Suite 116, 426-1527
- **Discrimination** – Contact Alicia Estey Interim Coordinator of Title IX/ADA/504 Compliance, Riverfront Hall Building, Room 306, 426-1258
- **Financial Concerns** (explore aid options available or see if extenuating circumstances qualify as “special conditions” for adjusting existing aid) – Financial Aid Office, Administration Building, Room 113, 426-1664, email financialaid@boisestate.edu
- **Health or Medical Problems** – Contact the University Health Services, NORCO Building, 426-1459
- **Personal, Relationship or Educational Concerns** – Contact Health & Wellness Counseling Services, NORCO Building, 426-1459
- **Sexual Harassment** – Contact Alicia Estey, Interim Coordinator of Title IX/ADA/504 Compliance, Riverfront Hall Building, Room 306, 426-1258 or Office of the Dean of Students, NORCO Building, Suite 116, 426-1527
- **Support for Women** – Gender Equity Center, 426-4259
- **Academic Accommodations** – Educational Access Center, 1st Floor of the Lincoln Parking Garage, 426-1583
- **Veteran Resources** – Veteran Services – Lincoln Parking Garage, 426-3744

**APPENDIX – Suggested Timeline for EEB PhD Graduate Students**

**First Semester:**
- Student begins to develop proposed dissertation project in consultation with major advisor
- Form supervisory committee. Student submits Appointment of Supervisory Committee Form.
- Convene initial committee meeting. Student brings completed Program Development Form and an outline of proposed research topic for discussion with committee.

**Second Semester:**
- Student begins to drafts written proposal and animal care protocols (if necessary)

**Third Semester:**
- Second week: students submits written proposal for dissertation project, receives feedback, presents proposal presentation.

**Fifth Semester:**
• Comprehensive Exams

Seventh Semester:
• Student applies for candidacy in the semester before expected completion (*Application for Admission to Candidacy Form*) – be aware of the deadline!

Eighth Semester:
• Student completes “Application for Graduate Degree” by going to my.BoiseState, clicking on the STUDENT heading, then the REGISTRAR heading, then the link to APPLY FOR GRADUATION. The system will check to confirm that the candidacy form has been approved by the Graduate College. If you have not submitted a candidacy form you will receive an error message and will not be able to apply for graduation. The deadline for the Application to Graduate comes early in the semester – check the graduate catalog for details.
• Student completes and defends dissertation (be aware of the deadlines for defending and submitting completed dissertation to graduate college, and program rules for scheduling a defense!)
• Student submits required materials to Graduate College.

Intervening Period between specific deadlines listed above:
• Coursework
• Dissertation research
• Student analyzes data; continues research; writes about preliminary results or research projects; attends meetings etc.
• Student meets with and updates graduate committee regularly about research progress

APPENDIX – Participating Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>PhD Institution</th>
<th>Brief Research Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jesse Barber</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Wake Forest U</td>
<td>Sensory ecology, animal behavior, conservation biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marc Bechard</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Washington State U</td>
<td>Raptor biology and ecology; habitat use in raptors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Belthoff</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Clemson U</td>
<td>Behavioral ecology, animal behavior, and avian biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sven Buerki</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>University of Neuchatel, Switzerland</td>
<td>Biogeography, madagascar, taxonomy &amp; Systematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trevor Caughlin</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>U Florida</td>
<td>Forest landscape restoration, spatial ecology, seed dispersal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Institution</td>
<td>Research Focus</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marie-Anne de Graaff</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Wageningen U</td>
<td>Plant/Soil interactions in terrestrial ecosystems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Feris</td>
<td>(Chair and) Professor</td>
<td>U Montana</td>
<td>Microbial community ecology; bioremediation studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Forbey</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>U Utah</td>
<td>Physiological, chemical and pharmacological ecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Hayden</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Portland State U</td>
<td>RNA evolution, biomedical &amp; biotechnical molecules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie Heath</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>U Florida</td>
<td>Avian biology and conservation ecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Koetsier</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Idaho State U</td>
<td>Aquatic ecology; lotic macroinvertebrate ecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Novak</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Washington State U</td>
<td>Plant evolutionary biology; introduced species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ian Robertson</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Simon Fraser U</td>
<td>Insect behavior and ecology; plant-insect interactions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcelo Serpe</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>U California Davis</td>
<td>Plant biochemistry and physiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Smith</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>U Wisconsin</td>
<td>Plant molecular systematics, cladistic analyses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merlin White</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>U Kansas</td>
<td>Fungal molecular systematics, arthropod-associated fungi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jay Carlisle</td>
<td>Associate Research Professor</td>
<td>U South Dakota</td>
<td>Avian migration and physiological ecology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Human-Environment Systems**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Research Focus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jodi Brandt</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>U of Wisconsin</td>
<td>Land use science, remote sensing, conservation biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vicken Hillis</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>U California Davis</td>
<td>Behavioral and institutional change in environmental settings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neil Carter</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Michigan State U</td>
<td>Socio-environmental systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Department of Anthropology**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<th>Research Focus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samantha Blatt</td>
<td>Visiting Asst Prof</td>
<td>Ohio State U</td>
<td>Osteology, dental morphology/histology, bioarchaeology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathryn Demps</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>U California Davis</td>
<td>Cultural evolution, behavioral and evolutionary ecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Hill</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Southern Methodist U</td>
<td>Environmental archaeology-geoarchaeology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Plew</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Indiana U</td>
<td>Archaeology of Western North America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristin Snopkowski</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>U New Mexico</td>
<td>Human behavioral ecology, evolutionary demography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pei-Lin Yu</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Southern Methodist U</td>
<td>Ethnoarchaeology, human response to climate change</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Department of Geosciences**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shawn Benner</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>U Waterloo</td>
<td>Ecohydrology, biogeochemistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alejandro Flores</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>MIT</td>
<td>Ecohydrology and modeling, remote sensing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Glenn</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>U Nevada Reno</td>
<td>Remote sensing, image analysis, geological engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Kohn</td>
<td>Distinguished Professor</td>
<td>Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute</td>
<td>Geochemistry, petrology, and paleoecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jen Pierce</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>U New Mexico</td>
<td>Geomorphology &amp; Paleoclimatology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**US Geological Survey**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<th>Research Focus</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Germino</td>
<td>Supervisory Research Ecologist</td>
<td>U Wyoming</td>
<td>Plant-soil-climate relationships; biophysical ecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Institution</td>
<td>Areas of Focus</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd Katzner</td>
<td>Research Wildlife Biologist</td>
<td>Arizona State U</td>
<td>Conservation biology, ornithology, mammalogy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Pilliod</td>
<td>Supervisory Research Ecologist</td>
<td>Idaho State U</td>
<td>Herpetology, wildlife ecology, stream &amp; fire ecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas Shinneman</td>
<td>Supervisory Research Fire Ecologist</td>
<td>U Wyoming</td>
<td>Fire, landscape, restoration and plant ecology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The Peregrine Fund**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Areas of Focus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Anderson</td>
<td>Director Gyrfalcon Conservation Project</td>
<td>Louisiana State U</td>
<td>Raptor biology; ecological structure and function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris McClure</td>
<td>Director American Kestrel Partnership, Quantitative Ecologist</td>
<td>Auburn U</td>
<td>Vertebrate monitoring and ecological modeling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>