Program of Study for the Ph.D. in the Soils & Biogeochemistry Graduate Group

Student Name_____Quarter Admitted_____
B.S. Degree _____
Institution Date
M.S. or other degree_____
Institution Date

Prerequisite Requirements

Please check one of the following:

☐ This student has completed all required prerequisite courses for the MS plan I degree.

☐ This student is required to complete the program prerequisites indicated below during their *first academic year* in the term specified:

Prerequisites	Fall/Winter/Spring	Prerequisites	Fall/Winter/Spring
Biology 1		Chemistry 2	
Biology 2		Physics 1	
Calculus 1		Physics 2	
Calculus 2		Soil Science 1	
Chemistry 1		Soil Science 2	

Approved Graduate Courses in Soils and Biogeochemistry: 6 units

Course	Units	Quarter Taken

Seminar: 5 units (3 in Soil Science, 2 others)

(At least two of the seminars must be participatory, meaning that students must take an active role in group discussion or give an oral presentation)

Course	Units	Quarter Taken
SSC 290	1	
SSC 290	1	
SSC 290	1	

SSC 205: 5 units

Course	Units	Quarter Taken
SSC 205	5	

Course	Units	Quarter Taken

SSC 298	2	

Research: variable units

Course	Units	Quarter Taken
SSC 299		

Other Courses

Course	Units	Quarter Taken

Total Units ____

For the Ph.D. Degree, the **minimum** unit requirement is 18 units in addition to a variable number of research units. At least 12 units must be in graduate courses in the major field and must include SSC 205 (5 units, Field Studies of soils in California Ecosystems) and 7 units of approved Soil Science graduate courses (SSC 200 and higher). Students must take 3 units of SSC 290 (Soils Seminar) and 2 units of other relevant seminars. The remaining units may be a combination of upper division and graduate units including research. Additional units may be required prior to the Qualifying Exam.

Student Signature:_____ **Date:**_____

**This completed/signed document is to be returned to the graduate program coordinator by the academic adviser.*

Ph.D. degree in Soil Science Study Plan

Student Name_____

Year 1

Fall		**Winter**		**Spring**	
Course	**Units**	**Course**	**Units**	**Course**	**Units**
Year 2					
Fall		**Winter**		**Spring**	
Course	**Units**	**Course**	**Units**	**Course**	**Units**
Year 3					
Fall		**Winter**		**Spring**	
Course	**Units**	**Course**	**Units**	**Course**	**Units**

*SSC 290 (5 units) may be in addition coursework outlined above

Guidance Committee

		Course work approved by Guidance Committee	
		Signatures	**Date**
Graduate Advisor:			
Major Professor:			
Other Member			

Reviewed by:_____

Graduate Advisor Date

Other Advising Notes:

(Oral) Qualifying Examination

Quarter Scheduled _____

Students have the choice of completing the degree following either the "Soil Science" track or the "Soils and Biogeochemistry" track. Course work requirements are the same. The oral examination is different in the two tracks.

I. Students following the Soil Science track are examined in the following five areas:

1. Soil Physics
2. Soil Chemistry
3. Soil Genesis and Morphology
4. Soil Microbiology
5. Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition

Students are not required to take formal courses in these areas but are expected to show competency in these areas sufficient to pass the oral examination.

Oral Exam Committee for Soil Science Track

Area	Area details	Suggested Member	Date approved
Soil Physics			
Soil Chemistry			
Soil Genesis/Morph			
Soil Microbiology			
Soil Fert/Plant Nutr			

Reviewed by:_____
Graduate Advisor Date

II. Students following the Soils and Biogeochemistry track are examined in the following areas:

1. Principles of Soil Science
2. Methods/Tools/Quantitative Skills
3. Major emphasis from one of the five traditional areas of soil science
4. Minor emphasis area with regard to research focus
5. A second minor emphasis topic with regard to the student's research focus

Oral Exam Committee for Soils and Biogeochemistry Track

Area	Area details	Suggested Member	Date approved
Principles of Soil Science			
Methods			
Major area			
Minor area 1			
Minor area 2			

Reviewed by:_____
Graduate Advisor Date