**Prelim Evaluation – WRITTEN EXAM**

**Complete BEFORE oral exam and submit to Chair electronically.**

*Use separate page if needed.*

**Student:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Committee Member:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **Quality of the proposal.** Is the quality of the writing/presentation of the proposal satisfactory?

2. **Hypothesis and Significance.** Has the student clearly identified a testable hypothesis and aims, and adequately defended its significance and relevance to the field?

3. **Experimental Design.** Please provide brief critique of the experimental plan with respect to overall design, adequacy to test the proposed aims/hypotheses, and/or feasibility for thesis research.

4. **Critical thinking.** Has the student identified expected outcomes, appropriate limitations and devised alternative approaches that display critical thinking?

5. **Evaluation of the Written Proposal:** (Pass/Conditional Pass/Fail).

If conditional pass, please provide suggestion for possible remediation.

**Prelim Evaluation – ORAL EXAM**

**Complete AFTER oral exam and submit to Chair electronically.**

*Use separate page if needed.*

**Student:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Committee Member:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **Presentation and knowledge of research area.** Did the student effectively communicate the main concepts and proposed experiments in the oral presentation? Can the student stand on his/her own two feet with regard to defending the overall hypothesis and proposal?

2. **Experimental design**. Did the student demonstrate a sufficient understanding of the experimental design, controls, analysis, and interpretation of the experiments outlined in the proposal?

**3. Critical Thinking**. Can the student critically evaluate the proposed research, acknowledge pitfalls and propose alternative approaches? Can they identify important next steps in research?

4. **Basic Relevant Biological Knowledge and** **Independent Thinking**. Did the student display evidence of being able to think independently beyond the written proposal? Was the student able to apply a working knowledge of biochemistry, genetics and cell biology consistent with their precandidate training?

5. **Evaluation of the Oral Exam** (Pass/Conditional Pass/Fail).

If conditional pass, please provide suggestion for possible remediation.