Term/Idea Term/Idea	Definition/Explanation	"The" Source	Wiki Contributor & Date	Additional Comments/Corrections	Wiki Contributor & Date	Additional Comments/Corrections	Wiki Contributor & Date
All But Dissertation (ABD)	This is a status you reach in a PhD program once you have completed your exams and advanced to candidacy as well as completed your prospectus. It indicates that the only requirements you have to finish for the degree are your dissertation and defense. This status will allow you to apply for some jobs or positions that specifically request or allow ABD candidates.		Aubrey 1.14.25				
Committee	MA/MS and PhDs are required to form committees. The committees are led by one or two (co-chairs) tenure-track faculty members. MA/MS are required to have three members. PhDs are required to have five members, and one must be from outside the department. Please note that the EXAM COMMITTEE and DISSERTATION COMMITTEE for PhDs does not need to be the same.		Aubrey 1.14.25				
Coursework	Students are required to complete 30 credits of "coursework" or classes. Thesis hours and dissertation hours are not included in this. For full-time PhD students, coursework is often completed after 4 semesters or 2 academic years. Once coursework is completed, students can begin the exam process to advance to candidacy.						
Dissertation	PhD Students/Candidates are required to complete a dissertation which must involve in-depth research. The PhD Candidate is guided by their chair and four additional committee members (4 total). One of these committee members must be from outside of the department.		Aubrey 1.14.25				
Exams	Once a student finishes coursework, they will create a reading list and work on their exams. The exams occur over a three month period and involve responding to three different questions. The reading list should be used to respond to these questions, and the questions will be related to the student's interest and provided by their committee. Once the written exams are complete, they are submitted to the committee and reviewed for approximately two weeks before an oral defense occurs. A student passes the exams and advances to candidacy if they receive a majority vote.		Aubrey 1.14.25				
PhD Candidate	A PhD candidate is a student who has completed coursework requirements and passed any ~~preliminary~~ exams and is now moving toward the dissertation itself.		Tiffany Barney 1/14/25	I recommend removing the word prelimary as it might indicate the pre-exam rather than the qualifying exam process -Aubrey			
PhD Student	A PhD student is still taking coursework or still preparing for exams.		Tiffany Barney 1/14/25				
Pre-Exam	PhD students are required to complete a pre-exam in the summer after their first year. They will write a paper for publication with guidance from a faculty member. This is not the same as the exam process completed after coursework.		Aubrey 1.14.25				
Thesis	A thesis is required for MA/MS students and can take one of three forms: exams, project, or paper. Three committee members are required.		Aubrey 1.14.25				
Thesis Office	This office is in charge of publishing theses or dissertations from MA/MS/PhDs. They have specific formatting requirements to follow but do not decide citation style or the length of the manuscript. These are department specific. They are available for formatting requirement questions.	https://gradschool.utah.edu/thesis/	Aubrey 1.14.25				