This form is to be completed during the Intradepartmental Review and signed by the student and the chair of the Intradepartmental Review committee. The student is responsible for distributing copies of the completed form to members of the review committee and to the Student Services Office.

I. COMPETENCIES FOR THE PhD (Review doctoral competencies- a copy attached)

II. DOCTORAL/PROGRAM AREA LEARNING OBJECTIVES (see Academic Policies for list)
   — Reviewed with student

III. PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS
   1. CORE METHODS MATERIAL
      Required: BIOS 600, BIOS 545, EPID 710, EPID 715, EPID 716, EPID 718, EPID 722, EPID 725, EPID 726, or their equivalents.
      — Completed
      — Still needed (please specify):

   2. SUBSTANTIVE COURSES
      Required: Minimum of two, in separate research areas
      — Completed (list courses):
      — Planned (specify):

   3. BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES.
      — Adequate
      — Areas to be strengthened, with specific recommendations.
4. ADDITIONAL BIOSTATISTICS.
   ___ Adequate
   ___ Recommendations for additional work (specify)

5. CORE SCIENCES RELATED TO PROGRAM AREA.
   ___ Adequate
   ___ Recommendations for additional work (specify)

6. COMPETENCE IN STATISTICAL COMPUTING.
   ___ Adequate
   ___ Recommendations for additional work (specify)

7. TEACHING IN EPIDEMIOLOGY.
   ___ Completed (specify course ___________________)
   ___ Exempted on basis of past epidemiology teaching
   ___ Planned for (specify semester and year):

8. COMPETENCE IN SCIENTIFIC WRITING.
   ___ Adequate
   ___ Recommendations for additional work (specify):

9. RESEARCH PRACTICUM
   ___ Completed, report filed with Student Services Office
   ___ In progress
10. OTHER PROGRAM AREAS.

___ No additional work necessary.
___ Areas to be strengthened, with specific recommendations:

11. IRB TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

___ Completed, copy of certificate attached
___ Planned for (specify semester and year)

12. PUBLICATION SUBMISSION REQUIREMENT

___ Reviewed with student

IV. PRELIMINARY WRITTEN EXAMINATION (Doctoral Qualifying Examination)
[NOTE: BOTH PARTS MUST BE PASSED BEFORE PROCEEDING TO PRELIMINARY ORAL EXAMINATION]

Methods Component

___ Passed ___ Planned for (specify semester and year)

Substantive Component

___ Passed ___ Planned for (specify semester and year)

V. DISSERTATION

RESEARCH AREA OR TOPIC: (Please be as specific as possible, but as provisional as necessary.)
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Oral Examination and Approval of Proposal: ______________

Research Area Questions, if assigned: ________________

IRB Approval of Proposal: ________________

Final Defense: ________________

COMMENTS ON DISSERTATION PLANS (continue on separate page if needed)

PLEASE SIGN BELOW:

_______________________________________ _________________________________
Student Chair of IDR Committee

Submit to Jennifer Moore, Student Services Office, MC 2106.
COMPETENCIES FOR THE PhD

The PhD program enrolls students who have a master’s degree in epidemiology or another advanced degree and/or experience such that they have acquired most of the knowledge and competencies provided in the MPH or MSPH programs. The PhD program has a public health orientation and is designed to equip persons to function as independent researchers in academia, research institutes, government, or industry. While graduates often seek additional experience by way of a postdoctoral training, a graduate of the PhD program is prepared to function as a faculty member of a graduate program in a university or in a position in a public health organization, multi-disciplinary setting, government or industry of comparable independence and responsibility. The PhD program presupposes a foundation of knowledge of concepts and skills of epidemiology, an understanding of public health concepts and the population perspective, and the ability to read with sophistication reports of clinical and epidemiological studies. However, it is anticipated that students may need additional work in one or more of these areas, depending upon their background before entering the program. The PhD program assumes that graduates’ professional identity and primary area of expertise will be in epidemiology, though the student may possess a prior area of professional expertise (such as medicine, nursing, or pharmacy). The competencies of the doctoral program in Epidemiology fully meet the competencies set out for doctoral education at the UNC School of Public Health.

In addition to the ability of carrying out the competencies of the masters degree programs, upon satisfactory completion of the PhD degree program the student will be able to:

1. Be conversant with the principles of ethical conduct in research involving human subjects. (ETHICS)

2. Design, conduct, supervise and evaluate data collection protocols for observational or experimental studies in population or clinical settings. (DATA COLLECTION)

3. Apply data management skills in quantitative data analysis, including quality control, documentation, and data security procedures. (DATA MANAGEMENT)

4. Apply epidemiologic methods to study design and analysis. (METHODS)

5. Interpret and synthesize data from epidemiological studies. (SYNTHESIZE DATA)

6. Present the findings of an epidemiological investigation to scientific or lay audiences. First author a scientific manuscript that is not part of the student’s dissertation research. It is strongly encouraged that this competency be met early in the program. (SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION)

7. Teach epidemiology concepts. (TEACHING & SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION)

8. Participate in peer review of scientific manuscripts and research proposals. (REVIEW AND SYNTHESIZE)

9. Identify researchable study questions and methods that will advance scientific knowledge about a topic of public health, disease prevention, or clinical significance and address its impact. (IDENTIFY RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND METHODS)

10. Design and carry out a research project that contributes new knowledge in a substantive or methodological area of population health that is of public health significance. (CONTRIBUTE NEW KNOWLEDGE)
11. Apply knowledge of physiology and pathophysiologic processes in studying a specific exposure or health outcome. (SUBSTANTIVE EXPERTISE)

12. Apply knowledge of contextual and population science processes in studying a specific exposure, preventative measure, or health outcome. (SUBSTANTIVE EXPERTISE)

13. Apply multi- and interdisciplinary approaches in their research, with the aim of advancing health or preventing disease. (COLLABORATION AND TRANSLATION)