| **Before Semester 1** | • Communicate with your Major Professor  
• Arrive to campus at least one week before semester starts- speak with your Major Professor to agree on date  
• Attend ABE Graduate Student Orientation and the Graduate School’s Orientation during week before classes  
• Meet with Major Professor to plan first semester courses. Register for courses (often 9 credits), ABE 69400, and research credits (fall and spring semesters, register for 15 total credits in each semester)  
• Complete syllabus form (found in Appendix XX) to register for research credits (often 6 credits) |
| **Semester 1** | • Satisfy admissions conditions (submit official transcripts, etc.) per the Graduate School  
• Develop Plan of Study, based on discussions with Major Professor and your interests. Include a draft Committee, which can be changed later if needed.  
• Take courses and research credits including ABE 69400.  
• Before the end of the semester, register for the following semester including research credits |
| **Semesters 2-3 (up until the final semester)** | • Meet with your Committee to discuss courses, research, and progress each semester  
• Take courses and research credits - complete syllabus form for each semester of research credit registration  
• Take ABE 696 Seminar in Spring semester before completing an MS degree  
• Before the end of the semester, register for the next semester including research credits |
| **Before Final Semester** | • Register as CAND 991, 992, or 993 for the semester you plan to graduate (See Section 6.1 of the ABE Graduate Student Manual for details)  
• Plan process for final exam with Advisor and Committee  
• Ensure that your Plan of Study is complete, courses in your Plan are correct, and all degree requirements are met, including ABE 696 |
| **Final Semester** | • Schedule Defense date with Major Professor and Committee. The Defense date must be at least 2 weeks before the end of the semester (see Graduate School Calendar) but usually prior to that to make time for updates.  
• Schedule a room for your Defense with the Main Office  
• File Form 8 “Request for Appointment of Examining Committee” with the Grad School through MyPurdue Graduate School link  
• Send Thesis to all Committee members, following the Graduate School’s required format  
• Prepare Defense Announcement using ABE template provided by Grad Admin, template can also be found on ABE website. Graduate Program Admin will announce date and time by email. |
| **At least 2 weeks before Defense** | • Prepare and print Rubric Forms for each Committee member from ABE Grad Admin or from website (Also in Appendix C) |
| **Day before Defense** | • Present and defend your thesis |
| **Day of Defense** | • Complete electronic Thesis Acceptance Form (ETAF). Discuss with your advisor questions about Delay of Publication and Confidentiality.  
• Once approved, you will be able to log into your Plan of Study portal and find the link to submit your thesis to HammerRR.  
• Upload thesis for Graduate School review at least 24 hours before the Deposit Deadline. |
| **After graduation** | • Keep in touch with your Major Professor and the Grad Program Admin in ABE! |
### Ph.D. Students

#### Before Semester 1
- Communicate with your Major Professor
- Arrive to campus at least one week before semester starts - speak with your Major Professor to agree on date
- Attend ABE Graduate Student Orientation and the Graduate School’s Orientation during week before classes
- Meet with Major Professor to plan first semester courses. Register for courses (often 9 credits), ABE 69400 (if not continuing from ABE-MS program), and research credits (fall and spring semesters, register for 15 total credits in each semester)
- Complete syllabus form (found in Appendix XX) to register for research credits (often 6 credits)

#### Semester 1
- Satisfy admissions conditions (submit official transcripts, etc.) per the Graduate School
- Develop Plan of Study, based on discussions with Major Professor and your interests Include a draft Committee, which can be changed later if needed
- Take courses and research credits
- Before the end of the semester, register for the next semester including research credits

#### Semesters 2 through the final year
- Take courses and research credits, including ABE 697 in a Fall semester
- Complete syllabus form for each semester of research credit registration
- Meet with your Committee to discuss research each semester
- Before the end of the semester, register for the next semester including research credits

#### At least 1 year before you plan to graduate (Must be completed no less than 1 year prior to graduation)
- Meet with Committee to plan Preliminary Examination procedures
- Complete Research Proposal and circulate to Committee
- Conduct Written Prelim
- Schedule Oral Prelim and submit Form 8 at least 2 weeks prior. (See Checklist in Section 5.1 of ABE Graduate Manual for completing the Oral Prelim)
- Schedule a room for your Prelim with the Main Office
- File Form 8 “Request for Appointment of Examining Committee” with the Grad School through MyPurdue Graduate School link

#### Before Final Semester
- Register as CAND 991, 992, or 993 for the semester you plan to graduate (See Section 6.1 of ABE Graduate Manual for details)
- Plan process for final exam with Major Professor and Committee
- Ensure that your Plan of Study is complete, courses correct, and all degree requirements are met, including ABE 696 during your final Spring semester (if both MS and Ph.D. completed in ABE, this will be taken twice), and ABE 697

#### Final Semester
- Schedule Defense date with Major Professor and Committee. The Defense date must be at least 2 weeks before the end of the semester (see Graduate School Calendar) but usually prior to that to make time for updates
- Schedule a room for your Defense with the Main Office

#### At least 2 weeks before Defense
- File Form 8 “Request for Appointment of Examining Committee” with the Grad School through MyPurdue Graduate School link
- Send Dissertation to all Committee members, following Graduate School’s required format
- Prepare Defense Announcement using ABE template provided by Grad Admin, template also found on ABE website. Graduate Program Admin will announce date and time by email.

#### Day before Defense
- Prepare and print Rubric Forms for each Committee member from ABE Grad Admin or from ABE website (Also in Appendix C)

#### Day of Defense
- Present and defend your dissertation

#### When Dissertation completed
- Complete electronic Thesis Acceptance Form (ETAF). Discuss with your advisor questions about Delay of Publication and Confidentiality.
- Once it has been approved, you will be able to log into to your Plan of Study portal and find the link to submit your thesis to HammerRR.
- Upload dissertation for Graduate School review at least 24 hours before the Deposit Deadline.

#### After graduation
- Keep in touch with your Major Professor and the Grad Program Admin in ABE!