

PhD Program Timeline

| Timeline: | Student Activity |
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| First Year | Required coursework; RA with faculty, research involvement |
| Second Year | Required and elective coursework; continue research involvement; begin forming QE committee. <u>Spring Semester:</u> students begin formulating possible areas/questions and get QE Committee approved by Ph.D. Program Committee. |
| Summer after Second Year: May through September | QE development, get questions approved by QE Committee by <u>September 15th</u> , at the beginning of third year in the program. |
| Third Year: January and into Spring Semester | Submit written QE, complete revisions, oral defense of QE. Seek approval for Dissertation Committee. |
| Spring of Third Year | Defend Dissertation proposal. The dissertation proposal presents prospective research and is scheduled a minimum of two months after the successful completion of the Qualifying Exam. Please plan accordingly. |
| Fourth Year | Complete Dissertation and defense. The oral defense of the dissertation is scheduled a minimum of 4 calendar months after the committee approval of the dissertation proposal. Please plan accordingly. |