

DOCTORAL PROGRAM MILESTONES

HUMANITIES

Five phases from coursework to the defense. Timelines vary by program, so write in the target dates that fit yours and confirm them with your graduate advisor.

PHASE	FOCUS	MILESTONE	MY TARGET DATE
1 YEAR 1	FOUNDATION Seminars, language study and coursework	Identifying major fields and advisor	_____
2 YEAR 2	CANDIDACY Comprehensive reading, TA-ship and pedagogy	Qualifying exams and prospectus	_____
3 YEAR 3	RESEARCH Chapter 1, fieldwork, grant writing	The deep research phase	_____
4 YEAR 4	WRITING Chapter drafting and fellowships	ABD (All But Dissertation)	_____
5+ YEAR 5+	COMPLETION Polishing and job market	Defense and graduation	_____

DOCTORAL PROGRAM MILESTONES

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Five phases from coursework to the defense. Timelines vary by program, so write in the target dates that fit yours and confirm them with your graduate advisor.

PHASE	FOCUS	MILESTONE	MY TARGET DATE
1 YEAR 1	FOUNDATION Coursework and methods training	Selecting advisor and research area	_____
2 YEAR 2	CANDIDACY Specialization seminars, TA teaching and comp prep	Comp exams and prospectus	_____
3 YEAR 3	RESEARCH IRB approval, fieldwork and data collection	Data collection complete	_____
4 YEAR 4	WRITING Chapter drafting and conference papers	ABD and first job applications	_____
5+ YEAR 5+	COMPLETION Polishing and job market	Defense and graduation	_____

DOCTORAL PROGRAM MILESTONES

STEM

Five phases from coursework to the defense. Timelines vary by program, so write in the target dates that fit yours and confirm them with your graduate advisor.

PHASE	FOCUS	MILESTONE	MY TARGET DATE
1 YEAR 1	FOUNDATION Core coursework and lab rotations	Joining a lab / selecting advisor	_____
2 YEAR 2	CANDIDACY Advanced coursework, TA-ship and research proposal	Qualifying exam and advancement to candidacy	_____
3 YEAR 3	RESEARCH Experiments, analysis and conferences	First-author paper submitted	_____
4 YEAR 4	WRITING Dissertation drafting and fellowships	ABD and final experiments	_____
5+ YEAR 5+	COMPLETION Defense prep and job market	Defense, graduation and transition	_____