Timeline for Degree Completion

Year 1
Sept-June  • Complete required coursework
Winter  • Apply to the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (if eligible)
June  • Advancement exam/paper (PHRMSCI 250A/B/C)*
By June  • Identify a research lab and complete the Research Advisor Choice Form

Year 2
Summer  • Complete Petition for Resident Classification (if applicable)
Sept-June  • Any additional elective coursework, as suggested by your research advisor.
Winter  • Decide on advancement committee members
Spring  • Apply for continuing student fellowships

Year 3
By June  • Advancement exam (PhD Form I – Advancement to Candidacy)
• Establish doctoral committee
• Obtain MS degree (Advancement to Candidacy-Masters)
July - June  • Begin dissertation research
Winter  • Apply for continuing student fellowships
Spring  • Meet with your advancement/dissertation committee to review your individual development plan (IDP)

Year 4
July-June  • Continue dissertation research
Winter  • Apply for dissertation year fellowships
Spring  • Meet with your dissertation committee to review your individual development plan (IDP)**

Year 5
Before Sept  • Defend dissertation (PhD Form II – Report on Final Examination)
• Dissertation Submission Checklist
• Filing Fee Petition (if applicable)

* If this course series is not completed, you must take a separate, additional written comprehensive exam.

** This meeting should include student-specific job search preparation and strategies for the final year.