

Timeline for Degree Completion

Year 1

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

Year 2

- Summer
 - Sept-June
 - Winter
 - Spring
- Complete [Petition for Resident Classification](#) (if applicable)
 - Any additional elective coursework, as suggested by your research advisor.
 - Decide on advancement committee members
 - Apply for [continuing student fellowships](#)
 - Meet with your advancement committee to review your [individual development plan](#) (IDP)

Year 3

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

Year 4

- July-June
 - Winter
 - Spring
- Continue dissertation research
 - Apply for [dissertation year fellowships](#)
 - 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.