Timeline for Degree Completion

Year 1
Sept-June
• Complete required coursework
Winter
• Apply to the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (if eligible)
June
• Comprehensive 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.
• Decide on advancement committee members
Winter
• Apply for continuing student fellowships
Spring
• Meet with your advancement committee to review your individual development plan (IDP)

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.