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)*
  - 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.