

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 • Explore any additional elective coursework, as suggested by your research advisor.
- Contact the Graduate Advisor to determine your advancement committee members
- Winter • Apply for [continuing student fellowships](#)
- Spring • Meet with your advisement committee to review your [individual development plan](#) (IDP)

Year 3

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

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.