

Typical Academic Timeline

(Note: For students who enter the program with prior coursework such that a 4-year timeline is more appropriate, years 1 and 2 below should be combined.)

Year 1

- Fall**
 - Begin core curriculum
 - Curriculum Committee Meeting
- Winter**
 - Core curriculum cont.
 - Begin first part-time research rotation (winter or spring)
 - Curriculum Committee Meeting
- Spring**
 - Core curriculum cont.
 - Begin first part-time research rotation (winter or spring)
 - Curriculum Committee Meeting/choose full-time research rotation mentor for summer
 - Begin reading articles for summer research rotation
- Summer**
 - Prepare for Preliminary Exam
 - Take Preliminary Exam 2nd week of July
 - Summer research rotations
 - Curriculum Committee Meeting to determine minor program of study

Year 2

- Fall**
 - Continue coursework and determine minor program of study
 - Begin formal research assistantship
- Winter**
 - Coursework cont.
 - Research assistantship cont.
 - Curriculum Committee Meeting
- Spring**
 - Coursework cont.
 - Research assistantship cont.
 - Curriculum Committee Meeting/discuss dissertation topic and advisor
- Summer**
 - Research assistantship cont.

Year 3

- Fall**
 - Select dissertation advisor and research topic
 - Research assistantship cont.
- Winter**
 - Establish dissertation committee and present preliminary ideas to the committee and/or informally at a session of the Faculty-Student Workshop
 - Research assistantship cont.
- Spring**
 - Dissertation proposal submission and presentation by June 30
 - Research assistantship cont.

- Summer**
- Refine proposal as a function of feedback obtained from the committee and faculty, and obtain final approval (if necessary) before Fall Quarter
 - Research assistantship cont.

Year 4

- Fall**
- Begin working on dissertation.
 - Plan for at least two dissertation committee meetings throughout the year
- Winter**
- Dissertation cont.
- Spring**
- Dissertation cont.
- Summer**
- Dissertation cont.

Year 5

- Fall**
- Begin job search
 - Plan for at least two dissertation committee meetings throughout the year
- Winter**
- Job search/interviews cont.
- Spring**
- Defend dissertation by 5th week of quarter
 - Final dissertation due by 7th week of quarter
 - Convocation