

PhD

Year/Semester	Activities
Year 1 (Semesters 1,2)	Take classes; Learn about research; Pass Core Knowledge Exam
Summer 1	Begin full time research with PhD advisor
Year 2 (Semesters 3,4)	Continue research with PhD advisor Take one class per semester if necessary Assemble faculty committee (beginning of third semester) Prepare for qualifying exam Schedule qualifying exam (during fourth semester) – defend PhD research proposal Apply for candidacy after passing qualifying exam (end of fourth semester)
Years 3 (Semesters 5,6)	Conduct research Prepare manuscripts for publication Present work at a scientific conference; network for career
Years 4 (Semesters 7,8)	Conduct research Continue publishing manuscripts Present work at a scientific conference; network for career.
Year 5 (Semesters 9,10) if applicable	Conduct research Present work at a scientific conference; network for career Declare candidacy for graduation (ninth semester) Defend and publish dissertation (tenth semester)

MS Plan I

Year/Semester	Activities
Year 1 (Semesters 1,2)	Take classes; Learn about research
Summer 1	Begin full time research with faculty advisor
Year 2 (Semesters 3,4)	Continue research with faculty advisor Take one class per semester if necessary Assemble faculty committee (beginning of third semester) Apply for candidacy before final semester Prepare manuscripts for publication Present work at a scientific conference; network for career Defend and publish thesis (third or fourth semester)

MS Plan II

Year/Semester	Activities
Year 1 (Semesters 1,2)	Take classes
Year 2 (Semesters 3,4)	Finish coursework Apply for candidacy before final semester Study for oral exam Schedule and pass oral examination