

Ph.D. in Political Science: Ideal Schedule

FIRST YEAR: Methods Training; Develop Knowledge in Two Fields; Deepen Research Interests; Professionalization

<i>Fall Term</i>	<i>Spring Term</i>	<i>Summer</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courses: PS 800, + 4 courses if on fellowship, 3 if TAing (PS 812 normally taken here) • Professionalization: Attend workshops, meet speakers, read journals and books • Meet with advisors and faculty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courses: 4 courses if on fellowship, 3 if TAing (PS 813 and PS 817 normally taken here) • Professionalization: Workshop/Speakers, Journals/books • Meet with advisors and faculty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-dissertation research • Additional methods/language training • Work on papers • Read journals and books • Start planning for exams

SECOND YEAR: Prepare for Exams; Develop Dissertation Topics and Research Papers; Methods Training; Professionalization

<i>Fall Term</i>	<i>Spring Term</i>	<i>Summer</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 courses if on fellowship, 3 if TAing (Methods, substantive, language (if applicable) courses) • Continue with Workshop/Speaker/journals • Start preparing for exams • Meet with faculty and discuss dissertation topics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 courses if on fellowship, 3 if TAing (Methods, substantive, language (if applicable) courses) • Continue with Workshop/Speakers/journals • Identify prospectus committee • Continue to meet with faculty • Develop plans for a minor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualifying exams • Pre-dissertation research • Develop dissertation ideas • Develop research paper • Additional methods/language training • Read journals and books

THIRD YEAR: Develop and Defend Dissertation Proposal; Develop Research Portfolio; Professionalization

<i>Fall Term</i>	<i>Spring Term</i>	<i>Summer</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 courses if on fellowship, 3 if TAing (PS 801 (Prospectus Writing Class), Methods, substantive, language (if applicable) courses) • Meet with at least two faculty to discuss dissertation ideas (by 9/15) • As before: workshops, speakers, journals, and meet with faculty regularly • Submit conference paper by December 15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 courses if on fellowship, 3 if TAing (Methods, substantive, language (if applicable) courses) • Defend prospectus • Continue professionalization • Attend placement meeting • Prepare papers for conference presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissertation Research • Work on papers for publication

FOURTH YEAR: Dissertation and research; present at conferences

<i>Fall Term</i>	<i>Spring Term</i>	<i>Summer</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissertation Research • Develop publications • Attend conferences and departmental workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissertation Research and publications • Placement Meeting • Attend conferences and departmental workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissertation Research • Develop papers • Prepare for job market materials

FIFTH YEAR: Dissertation and research; job market; present at conferences

<i>Fall Term</i>	<i>Spring Term</i>	<i>Summer</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissertation Research and Publications • Attend conferences and departmental workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissertation Research and Publications • Conferences and workshops • Placement meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissertation Research and Pubs • Prepare job market materials