The Ph.D. is taken with special emphasis in one of the following programmatic areas: Brain, Behavior & Cognition (BBC); Clinical (C); Developmental Science (DS). Time allowed to complete the following requirements for the Ph.D. is seven years from the student’s date of entry into the program. Students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher and have no more than two failing grades (lower than a B- or an incomplete grade older than 12 months) in order to complete the degree.

**MILESTONES FOR COMPLETION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH PROGRAM:**

**Brain, Behavior & Cognition**
Course Requirements: 4 semesters (2 years)
Qualifying Examination: 6 semesters (3 years)
Thesis Prospectus: 8 semesters (4 years)
Thesis Defense: 12 semesters (6 years)

**Developmental Science**
Course Requirements: 6 semesters (3 years)
Qualifying Examination: 6 semesters (3 years)
Thesis Prospectus: 8 semesters (4 years) [may petition the Program Director for an extension of up to 2 semesters]
Thesis Defense: 12 semesters (6 years)

**Clinical**
Second Year Research Project (2 years)
Course Requirements (3 years)
Qualifying Examination/Profile (3 years)
Thesis Prospectus (4 years)
Internship (5 years)
Thesis Defense (6 years)

Please see the Graduate Student Handbook [www.bu.edu/psych/graduate](http://www.bu.edu/psych/graduate) and the Clinical Student Handbook ([http://www.bu.edu/psych/graduate/clinical/](http://www.bu.edu/psych/graduate/clinical/)) for detailed information on the specific requirements for each program.