PhD Requirements

Satisfactory Academic Progress

The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and the Department of History of Art & Architecture guarantee five full years (12 months each) of financial support for students who maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress. All requirements for the doctorate, including dissertation, must be completed within seven years (exceptions require a petition to GRS). A leave of absence of up to two semesters is permitted for appropriate cause, but the leave period counts towards the seven-year time limit. Given these time constraints, students should work closely with their dissertation readers to devise an efficient schedule for research, writing and revision. Faculty and students share responsibility for adhering closely to this schedule.

The following achievements are required to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress:

1. Maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
2. Have no more than 2 failing grades (lower than B- or an incomplete grade older than 12 months).
3. Pass qualifying exams and other milestones on the recommended schedule specified under the listed PhD Requirements.

Following is a general timetable for students entering the doctoral program without an M.A. degree:

By the end of the first year

• Completion of eight courses
• Pass first language exam

By the beginning of the third semester

• Pass M.A. Comprehensive Exam

By the end of the third semester

• Completion of Masters Scholarly Paper

By the end of the second year

• Completion of four more courses
By the end of the third year

- Completion of final four courses
- Pass second language exam

By the end of the seventh semester

- Pass Qualifying Exam
- Submit Dissertation Prospectus

By the end of the sixth year

- Defend Dissertation

Following is a general timetable for students entering the doctoral program with an M.A. degree:

By the end of the first year

- Completion of eight courses
- Fulfill first language requirement

By the end of the second year

- Pass second language exam
- Pass Qualifying Exam

By the end of the fifth semester

- Submit Dissertation Prospectus

By the end of the fifth year

- Defend Dissertation