

Flow Chart for Successful Ph.D. Completion at Oregon State University – 2010-11

oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/current/flowchart-PhD.pdf

University Requirements for Doctoral Degrees

Note: Time critical events are in red text or in red boxes.

Admission

Academic Unit Doctoral Requirements

Review the graduate degree requirements of your academic unit (college, school, department, or program) with your advisor, the program director/chair, or the graduate program coordinator.

NOTE: A double solid line connected to a University Requirement indicates your department or program may have additional requirements. Check with your academic unit for its specific rules and requirements.

Registration

Discuss your goals and expectations with your department's graduate advisor. Draft a schedule of coursework for your degree.

Determine eligibility of transfer credits, if any.
Take courses. Start research.

Before completing 2 terms (if you already have a master's) or 5 terms (if you do not have a master's): (1) Select program committee members, which must include a Graduate Council Representative. (2) Meet with your program committee to create a Program of Study. (Take to the meeting, the Doctoral Program Checklist, all transcripts, list of your eligible transfer credits, your program curriculum, an initial draft of your Program of Study.)

When most coursework has been completed and **at least 6 weeks before your preliminary oral exam**, submit your signed program of study to the Graduate School. When it has been approved by the Graduate School, you may schedule your Oral Preliminary Exam. Submit the online Exam Scheduling Form **at least 2 weeks before the exam.**

NOTE: Continuous enrollment required unless leave of absence requested.

At least two weeks before Final Oral Defense of Dissertation:
(a) Submit Exam Form to the Graduate School,
(b) Submit pre-text pages to the Graduate School, and
(c) Give dissertation to your whole committee.

Oral Preliminary Examination

Pass
No

Continue research. Submit diploma application **15 weeks before your defense.**

NOTE: Time Limits.

At least one term must elapse, but no more than 5 years may elapse between the Oral Preliminary Exam and the Final Oral Exam.

Final Oral Exam (Dissertation Defense)

pass
No

Hand in dissertation by the end of term or by 6 weeks from the exam, whichever comes first. See Graduate Catalog for details.

NOTE: This flowchart is only a guide. Check the Graduate Catalog for full details.

Yea! Hand in corrected dissertation to Graduate School.

Graduation 