

Idealized Time-Line for Doctoral Students

Department of Geography and the Environment

University of Texas at Austin

Last updated 7/14/07

The following is an idealized time-line for doctoral students to efficiently work through the graduate program in Geography. Consult the Graduate Adviser for options. The requirements given in University catalogs supersede information issued by any academic department. The University reserves the right to change the requirements given in the catalog at any time.

YEAR I	
Semester 1 (fall)	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend department orientation (August 22 in 2007) • Attend relevant UT orientations, get UT electronic ID, email address, library privileges, and keys • Meet with Graduate Adviser (August 22-23 in 2007), then register for courses for the Fall semester: GRG 390K: Issues in Geography, and an upper division or graduate course taught by a regular Geography faculty member • Turn in <i>Report on Progress Towards the Doctoral Degree</i> (due October 1). Note you only need to fill in the top of the form, but may fill in the remainder if you wish • (If a TA) conduct department-approved student evaluations of your course • Meet with as many faculty as possible, begin identifying potential Supervisor • Begin developing a Program of Work to complete the course requirements (in coordination with Supervisor and/or Graduate Adviser) • Attend the Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Association of American Geographers (SWAAG); present masters thesis research if possible • Begin work towards fulfillment of language or methods requirements <p>Optional (applies to some students):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work towards fulfilling remedial course work requirement (see <u>Remedial Coursework form</u>) if applicable • Submit paper abstract to the AAG for their Annual Meeting based on master's research •
Semester 2 (spring)	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with Adviser and/or Supervisor prior to course registration • Enroll in GRG 390L: Research in Geography; also enroll in a graduate course taught by a regular faculty member in Geography, in a different subfield than the course taken in the fall. If the course taken in the fall was a graduate level course, this course can be upper division • Be sure you are making progress towards the course requirements in geography and the supporting field • Choose dissertation Supervisor and work with Supervisor to establish Supervising Committee • Turn in the signed <i>Supervising Committee</i> form to the Graduate Adviser in Geography • In coordination with Supervisor, develop a project and pursue appropriate funding • If necessary, apply via Grad Adviser for IRB approval for research • (If a TA) conduct department-approved student evaluations of your course • Work towards fulfillment of departmental language and method requirements <p>Advised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers (AAG) • Formulate summer field research plans for preliminary dissertation research • Apply for funding to support preliminary dissertation research, including the <i>Veselka Fellowship</i> <p>Optional (applies to some students):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work towards fulfilling remedial course work requirement (see <u>Remedial Coursework form</u>) if applicable •

Summer 1	Advised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct preliminary dissertation field research •
YEAR II	
Semester 3 (fall)	Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn in signed <i>Report on Progress</i> (due October 1) • After consulting with Supervisor and Graduate Adviser, Enroll in courses to work towards the Program of Work requirement. This should include one graduate course taught by a regular member of the Geography department. This may be deferred until the next semester. • Work towards fulfillment of departmental language and methods requirements Advised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend SWAAG • Submit abstract to AAG with paper based on preliminary dissertation research • In coordination with dissertation supervisor, meet with supervising committee to formulate time-line and oral exam topics for becoming Advanced to Candidacy • Develop a dissertation proposal in preparation for ABD process • Apply for external funding • Enroll in GRG 398-T: <i>Teaching Geography</i> this semester or next Optional (applies to some students): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue remedial work if applicable
Semester 4 (spring)	Advised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enroll in courses to complete the Program of Work requirement • Attend AAG • Apply for internal funding for dissertation research • Take written exams for ABD • Proposal Presentation for ABD • File the "<i>Application for Candidacy</i>" form with the Graduate School • Finish fulfillment of departmental language and methods requirements; submit forms Optional (applies to some students): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish remedial work if applicable
Summer 2	Advised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin dissertation field research and compilation of data sets and materials •
YEAR III	
Semester 5 (fall)	Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn in signed <i>Report on Progress</i> (due October 1) Advised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend and present at SWAAG • Submit abstract for spring AAG meeting • Dissertation research (field, laboratory, archival, and/or library) •

Semester 6 (spring)	Advised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissertation research (field, laboratory, archival, and/or library) Optional (applies to some students): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend AAG
Summer 3	Advised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin writing up dissertation • Submit manuscripts for publication
YEAR IV	
Semester 7 (fall)	Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enroll in first sequence of dissertation writing courses, GRG _99-W • Turn in signed <i>Report on Progress</i> (due October 1) Advised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Become familiar with deadlines for filing dissertations and graduation • Plan for final dissertation defense • Apply for academic jobs, prepare for job interviews • Submit manuscripts for publication • Register and send abstract to AAG of dissertation research for annual meeting Optional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and teach a course, if invited by Department Chair
Semester 8 (spring)	Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply for Graduation (if appropriate) • Enroll in second sequence of dissertation writing courses, GRG _99-W • Provide final corrected version of dissertation to committee one month in advance of defense • Schedule dissertation defense with the Graduate School; form needs to be signed by all committee members two weeks in advance • Defend Dissertation and get approval of all members of committee; defense should be conducted before end of April; defenses are not be conducted during the summer • Submit Dissertation as per all Graduate School requirements and deadlines • Provide a bound copy of your dissertation to the department •