

Expectations/Requirements of Doctoral Students Related to Progress and Performance

Progress

1. The PhD program is a full time program, necessitating 4 terms of residency in the first 4 years.
2. Students are expected to complete the program in 4 years.
3. Course work will be completed over the first 15 months in the program.
4. Required courses are:
 - NURS6050 Contemporary Views of Nursing Science: Philosophy, Research and Practice
 - Two courses in the student's substantive area of research, one of which will be NURS6200 Nursing Sensitive Health Outcomes or NURS6210 Women's Health Outcomes
 - An advanced research methods/design course, for example, NURS6130 Measurement in Nursing Phenomena or NURS5100 Qualitative Research Methods
 - NURS6300 Doctoral Seminar

Students may also be required by their Supervisor to complete additional course work related to their substantive area or to the methodology being used.

5. Thesis supervisory committee are to be structured by the end of the first year in the program and will meet at least once before the comprehensive exams are prepared.
6. Students are to prepare a research proposal draft that the committee reviews to determine readiness for comprehensive exams.
7. Comprehensive exams will be taken in the no later than the end of second year in the program.
8. Following successful completion of the comprehensive exams the student will continue to refine the proposal and defend it within six months of completion of comprehensive exams.
9. Ethics applications will be prepared in tandem with the proposal and revised as necessary based on committee feedback, making them ready for submission as soon as possible upon successful proposal review.

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Performance

1. Seminar series are held on a regular basis in the School, providing opportunity for scholarly exchange among students and faculty. Students will be scheduled at least twice over the length of their program to present at the series and are required to attend all sessions.
2. Publications are considered evidence of scholarly performance, and students will prepare a minimum of three manuscripts as first author for submission to scholarly journals during their time in the program. Students will have accepted for presentation a minimum of one abstract at a national or international conference.
3. Scholarships and funding awards are necessary to support student progress. Students are required to apply for a minimum of two funding awards in the first 2 years of their program of study.
4. Research training is an important aspect of doctoral study, and students are expected to commit a minimum of 4 hours per week on research activities that may include grant preparation, ethics applications, and scholarly presentation preparation in their supervisor's area.
5. Supervisors will conduct performance and progress reviews of students twice yearly in November and April, based on completion of the PhD Nursing Completion Timeline.
6. As per Faculty of graduate Studies (FGS) guidelines, supervisory committees should meet at least twice a year during the thesis research period and more often in the writing stages of a student's program. A Record of Graduate Thesis Supervisory Committee Meetings will be submitted to the Graduate Programs Office after each of these meetings.