

^{*} Students should discuss these areas with their advisor in the process of planning their graduate program and prior to preparation of their qualifying exam materials.

proposed research.

Must be attempted upon completion of 6 full-time semester hours or 48th semester credit hours. Can be completed earlier if all required courses are taken.

Deadline	What
October 6, 2025	Declare intention to sit for exam (providing doctoral degree plan for approval) Obtain signature of advisor
November 24, 2025	 Submit all required components: Current CV Research project abstract Most currently submitted Individualized Development Plan Preliminary dissertation proposal (1-2 pages), demonstrating knowledge and work of the student and others, synthesized to present a rationale for the proposed dissertation topic (e.g. theory to be developed, hypotheses to be tested) as well as the proposed methodology to fulfill the dissertation objective List of references (30-50 articles) and syllabi for relevant classes for three domain areas related to their proposed research Students should discuss these areas with their advisor in the process of planning their graduate program and prior to preparation of their qualifying exam materials.
December 12, 2025	Confirm that all preparations for exam are complete
December 18-19, 2025	Sit for qualifying exam (two days of written exam)