

GRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Revised August 2026

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Facilities and Resources

MAIN OFFICE

The main office in Peabody 107 is open from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. This office houses the Head of the Department and one staff worker—the Administrative Assistant. The Administrative Assistant handles many administrative matters, including clearing students for registration, and serves as Graduate Program Administrator and as an assistant for the Undergraduate Coordinator. The Head handles all top-level administrative matters for the Department, including hiring part-time and temporary teachers, making teaching assignments, and supervising the office staff and the rest of the faculty. The Department also has an IT Manager who maintains the computer equipment. The IT Manager does not have an office in the Department, but can be contacted by the office staff if problems arise.

MAILROOM

The mailroom in Peabody 108 is locked after hours. Please request a key so that you can access your mailbox. There is also a copier and basic office supplies in the mailroom. These are for the use of University employees in the performance of their duties only. They are not for personal use, or for use by graduate students who are not on assistantship or employed in some other capacity—for example, as part-time instructors. Graduate students who are employed by the University will be given a code for the copier so that they can copy materials for the classes they are teaching or for the faculty members for whom they are performing research-related tasks.

LOUNGE

The lounge in Peabody 108 is open whenever the main office is open. At other times it can be opened with your mailroom key. Please be responsible about locking up if you use the lounge when the office is not open. The lounge contains kitchen facilities, including a refrigerator and a microwave. Please feel free to socialize in the lounge with your fellow students, faculty and staff. But please be responsible about cleaning up food and other items you may bring with you.

ROOM 10

Room 10 on the ground floor of Peabody Hall is a quiet study area. It is locked unless someone is using it. It can be opened with the same key that opens the mailroom. Please be responsible about keeping Room 10 locked when no one is there. Desks for Research Assistants are in Room 10, and may also be used by other students, depending on availability. The computers and printer in Room 10 are available for use by graduate students for study-related purposes. There is also a small conference room off Room 10 that may be reserved for committee meetings and the like.

BULLETIN BOARDS AND ELECTRONIC MONITOR

Two bulletin boards are located outside the mailroom and in the lounge. They contain hard copies of information about job opportunities, calls for papers, University policies, conference announcements and the like. The electronic monitor outside the mailroom-lounge complex has information about upcoming events in the Department and the University. Graduate student groups and associations may have announcements posted on the bulletin boards or the electronic

monitor. Please give your announcement to the office staff for posting. We also have two bulletin boards in the Hall, next to Room 115. These bulletin boards are usually used for announcements to Undergraduate Students. Please ask the office staff if you would like to post something on these boards.

DISPLAY CASES

There are display cases outside the Department office (Peabody 107) in which publications by department members, photos from departmental conferences and events, and other department-related materials are posted. The graduate students may request to have materials posted in these display cases. Please ask the office staff to arrange this if you have something you would like to post.

DEPARTMENT LISTSERVS

The Department maintains a number of listservs for easier communication among different groups of students, faculty or staff. Who can send or receive messages from these lists varies. The listserv for graduate students is philgrad@listserv.uga.edu. When you arrive at UGA and get your UGAMail address, please give it to the Director of Graduate Studies, who will add it to the philgrad list. We do not use non-UGA addresses on our listservs, so if you prefer to read your email somewhere else, please make sure your UGAMail account is set to forward to your preferred address. Messages on philgrad can be both received and sent by all graduate students, the Director of Graduate Studies, and the office staff. Faculty can send messages to philgrad, but do not receive them. Graduate students wishing to send messages to the faculty listserv, the undergraduate listserv, or the department-wide announcement listserv should ask the office staff to send the message to the relevant listserv(s). Graduate students receive messages from the announcement listserv, but not from the others.

WEBSITES

The two most important websites for graduate students are the Department's own website and the Graduate School website, but other websites at the University also have important information and resources. Please note that this list is not intended to be exhaustive. These sites and many others that you will find useful can be easily reached from the UGA homepage.

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|---|--|
| • UGA Homepage | www.uga.edu |
| • Philosophy Department | www.phil.uga.edu |
| • Graduate School | www.grad.uga.edu |
| • Graduate School Policies | grad.uga.edu/graduate-policies |
| • GradApply | gradapply.uga.edu/account/login |
| • Grad Status | gradstatus.uga.edu/ |
| • Center for Teaching and Learning | wwwctl.uga.edu |
| • Libraries | www.libs.uga.edu |
| • Career Center | www.career.uga.edu |
| • Equal Opportunity Office | http://eoo.uga.edu/ |
| • Environmental Ethics
Certificate Program | ced.uga.edu/programs/certificates/eecp/ |

- Institute for Artificial Intelligence www.ai.uga.edu
- Institute for Women's Studies <https://wgs.uga.edu/>

Staff, faculty, graduate students and other personnel are listed in the People directory on the Department's website. Please note that if you have elected to restrict your directory information under Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), you cannot be listed on our website unless we have a signed letter of consent from you. Please see the Director of Graduate Studies or the Head for further information.

COLLOQUIUM SERIES

We encourage our graduate students to attend all colloquia. The department has an active colloquium series, thanks to the generosity of Professor Emeritus Scott Kleiner and his spouse, Heather Kleiner. Every year it brings to the Department distinguished speakers working in a wide range of philosophical areas and approaches. Colloquia are an essential component of the ongoing professional development of the faculty, and are an equally essential component of your graduate education. The faculty take turns inviting speakers, and the graduate students collectively have a turn as well.

PHILOSOPHY GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION (PGSA)

All enrolled graduate students are automatically members of PGSA. The mission of the society is the promotion of philosophical discourse among the graduate students at UGA, the development of professional skills and experience related to the requirements of academic life, and the creation of an interactive social environment within the department and the community. The society organizes graduate student conferences, sponsors speakers from inside and outside UGA, and organizes graduate student workshops on various topics.

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION (GSA)

The Graduate Student Association (GSA) is the primary political and social body for graduate students at the University of Georgia. The Graduate Student Association is a multi-purpose organization focused on advocating, connecting, and empowering graduate students at the University of Georgia. The Graduate Council serves all currently enrolled graduate students. It is a representative body consisting of one representative from each graduate department of the University. The department nominates one graduate student as the Graduate Student Representative at the Graduate Council. Further information about the GSA can be found on their website: <https://uga.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/graduatestudents>

JOSEPH B. GITTLER FELLOWSHIP

The Joseph B. Gittler fellowship is a dissertation completion fellowship for philosophy graduate students who have been admitted to candidacy. Each year in the Spring semester, the department will send out a call for applications for the fellowship, which will be administered the following school year. To apply for the fellowship, graduate students must submit an application to the Administrative Assistant, consisting of a two-page description of the dissertation project and a

plan for completion that includes what has been accomplished so far on the dissertation. The student's advisor must also submit a letter stating what has been accomplished so far, attesting to the quality of the work, and estimating the likelihood that the student will complete the dissertation within the fellowship year. The Awards Committee decides the award of the fellowship.

Policies and Procedures

GRADUATE PROGRAM

1. Department and Graduate School Policies

- 1.1 Each candidate for a graduate degree in the Department of Philosophy must meet all requirements for the degree and comply with all policies set out in the most recent version of the *Department of Philosophy Graduate Student Handbook*, unless they are explicitly exempted from specific requirements or policies. Students may also petition the Department for exemption from any requirement or policy in the handbook. Please see section 15 (Right of Petition).
- 1.2 Each candidate for a graduate degree must meet all general requirements for the degree and comply with all policies set out in the UGA Bulletin (bulletin.uga.edu) or UGA Graduate School Policies (<https://grad.uga.edu/graduate-policies/>). It is your responsibility to be familiar with these requirements and policies. The *Department of Philosophy Graduate Student Handbook* neither duplicates nor replaces UGA Graduate School Policy. All requirements listed here are in addition to the requirements of the Graduate School. If there is any discrepancy between Department policies and Graduate School policies, then Graduate School policies shall prevail.

2. Graduate School and Departmental Forms

In order to complete your degree, you must file the relevant Graduate School and departmental forms. Copies of most forms that you must file with Graduate School are available on Grad Status: gradstatus.uga.edu/ or <https://gradapply.uga.edu/account/login>. Copies of all forms that you must file with the department are available on the Philosophy Department website: <https://phil.uga.edu/graduate-student-forms>. It is your responsibility to keep up with which forms you are to file and with the deadlines for filing them. The deadlines for Graduate School forms are posted on the Graduate School website. The deadlines for departmental forms are specified below. It is your responsibility to see that each form is accurate and complete. Please make a copy of each submitted form for your records. Sections 2.1 and 2.2 list the most important forms that must be filed in order to complete your degree.

2.1 Graduate School Forms

*The deadlines for Graduate School Forms can be found here:
<https://grad.uga.edu/current-students/important-dates-deadlines/>*

- *Advisory Committee Form (for MA and PhD Degree):* We encourage, but do not require, you to submit an Advisory Committee Form during your first year of graduate work (see section 4). This form is available on GradApply
- *Program of Study (for MA and PhD Degree):* If you are an MA student, you must submit a Program of Study Form for approval by the dean of the Graduate School before defending your thesis. If you are a PhD student, you must submit a Program of Study Form for approval by the dean of the Graduate School before the notification of the preliminary oral comprehensive examination can be given. You must make sure that this form is approved before your oral comprehensive examination is scheduled (see section 6.1 for doctoral students and section 7.1 for master's students). This form is available on Degreeworks.
- *Comprehensive Exam Announcement (for PhD Degree):* This form must be filed by the Director of Graduate Studies. After completion of the written comprehensive examination, that is, after passing your two qualifying papers (see section 6.3 below), the oral examination is announced to the Graduate School and posted on the Graduate School website. The Director of Graduate Studies will file this form through the GradStatus website.
- *Application for Admission to Candidacy (for PhD Degree):* This form is submitted after the completion of oral comprehensive exams and prospectus defense and must be signed by your Major Professor and the Director of Graduate Studies and filed with the Graduate School. This form is available on the GradStatus website.
- *Format Check (for MA and PhD Degree):* Before defending your master's thesis or your doctoral dissertation, you must submit one complete copy of your thesis or dissertation for a format check with Graduate School. For more information on how to do the format check, go to the following website:
<https://grad.uga.edu/development/academic/theses-dissertations-overview/>
- *Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD) Submission Approval Form (for MA and PhD Degree):* You must submit the final ETD Approval Form and a corrected copy of your thesis/dissertation by the deadline set by the Graduate School for the semester of your defense. This form is available on GradStatus.
- *Dissertation Defense Announcement (for PhD Degree):* This form must be filed by the Director of Graduate Studies at least two weeks before the date of your defense. The Director of Graduate Studies will file this form through the GradStatus website.
- *Approval Form for Master's Thesis/Doctoral Dissertation and Final Oral Examination (for MA and PhD Degree):* This form must be ready at the time

when you take your final oral examination, that is, your thesis defense. You will submit this form through GradStatus.

2.2 Departmental Forms

- *Preliminary Program of Study Form (for PhD Degree)*: You should submit a Preliminary Program of Study to the Director of Graduate Studies by the end of your third semester of course work. You should prepare this form with your Major Professor. The preliminary program of study should list all the courses included in your program of study. This form is available on our departmental website.
- *Approval Form for Phil 8800: Readings and Research in Special Problems in Philosophy (for MA and PhD Degree)*: You must complete this form if you are intending to do an independent study. The form needs to describe the independent study, establish need, and identify a faculty member willing to direct the independent study. This request must be approved by your advisor and the director of the independent study before registration. The form is available on our departmental website.

3. Advising

The Director of Graduate Studies will advise you until your Advisory Committee has been appointed. Then your Major Professor as Chair of the Advisory Committee will advise you in most matters, although the entire Advisory Committee is responsible for some decisions.

4. Advisory Committee

- 4.1 You must take the initiative to have your Advisory Committee appointed by the start of your second year of MA work or the end of your second year of PhD work. It is understood and expected that students may wish to change their Major Professor and/or other committee members as they progress through the program. To appoint or to change an Advisory Committee, you must file an Advisory Committee form with the Graduate School. The Advisory Committee Form is available on the GradApply website (<https://gradapply.uga.edu/account/login>).
- 4.2 The Advisory Committee of an MA student shall consist of the Major Professor and two other faculty members. The Major Professor and at least one other member of the Advisory Committee must be members of the Philosophy Department. All three members of the Advisory Committee must be members of the UGA Graduate Faculty. The Advisory Committee of a PhD student shall consist of a minimum of three and a maximum of five faculty members. At least three must be members of the UGA Philosophy Department and at least three must be members of the UGA Graduate Faculty. A member of the faculty of an institution of higher education other than UGA may be appointed to serve on a doctoral Advisory Committee as a member from outside the UGA Philosophy Department, but only at the student's request, and provided the

Department is able to pay all related compensation (transportation, lodging, meals, honorarium, etc.) in accordance with Graduate School policy.

Co-Major Professors: Co-Major Professors, limited to two, may be appointed to an advisory committee provided both parties are appointed members of the Graduate Faculty. Both parties must sign all forms requiring the chair's signature. The two Co-Major Professors count as one member of the committee; therefore, an additional faculty member must be added to the advisory committee with a majority of Graduate Faculty members being maintained.

You begin to assemble your Advisory Committee by finding a faculty member who is prepared to serve as your Major Professor. He or she should be someone who specializes in an area in which you wish to work. In consultation with him or her, you must then identify 2–4 other faculty members who are willing to serve on your committee. To finalize the appointment of your Major Professor and Advisory Committee, you must fill out the Advisory Committee form, which you can find on the GradApply website (<https://gradapply.uga.edu/account/login>). The form must be approved by the members of your Advisory Committee and the Director of Graduate Studies. If you wish to change your Major Professor or any member of your Advisory Committee later on, you must file a new Advisory Committee form.

- 4.3 Persons who serve on your Advisory Committee at the time your thesis or dissertation research is undertaken must be faculty members knowledgeable in the areas of your research. If you are an MA student, you may include one faculty member from other departments, in addition to the two required faculty members from the Philosophy Department. If you are a PhD student, you may include up to two faculty members from other departments, in addition to the three required faculty members from the Philosophy Department. Sometimes membership of the Advisory Committee will remain unchanged during your entire program, while at other times changes in the original committee will be necessary.
- 4.4 The Major Professor has the primary responsibility for guiding your research, but you should consult all members of the Advisory Committee to draw upon their expertise in relevant areas.

5. GradFIRST requirement

Graduate students must complete a 1-credit GradFIRST seminar (GRSC 7001) during fall or spring of their first year. The GradFIRST seminars supplement discipline-specific training in graduate students' academic programs with focused professional development and engagement/networking opportunities. Completion of GradFIRST will be listed on a student's program of study (G138) form in GradStatus. In the section titled "GradFIRST requirement" the student should list the semester in which the course was completed.

6. Program Requirements for the PhD Degree

In order to obtain a PhD Degree in Philosophy, you have to satisfy the Program Requirements. The program requirements consist of the following components:

- Course Requirements (see section 6.1)
- Research Skills (see section 6.2)
- Qualifying Papers (Written Preliminary Comprehensive Examination)
(see section 6.3)
- Oral Preliminary Comprehensive Examination (see section 6.4)
- Dissertation Prospectus and Dissertation Prospectus Defense (see section 6.6)
- Dissertation and Dissertation Defense (see section 6.7)

6.1 Course Requirements

If you are a PhD student *without* an MA in philosophy, then you must complete at least 45 hours of course work (15 courses). You are required to take at least 10 seminars. In addition, the program of study must include at least 3 hours of Phil 9300 (dissertation writing).

If you are a PhD student *with* an MA in philosophy, then you must take at least 30 hours of course work (10 courses). You are required to take at least 7 seminars. In addition, the program of study must include at least 3 hours of Phil 9300 (dissertation writing).

If you entered the PhD program with an MA in a field other than philosophy, then your Advisory Committee will decide whether your minimum course requirement will be the 45 semester hour requirement or the 30 semester hour requirement. Regardless of their determination, the program of study must include at least 3 hours of Phil 9300 (dissertation writing).

For each of these degree programs, a combined maximum of 3 credits of GRSC 7001 and 7770 can be counted towards the course requirements.

6.2 Research Skills

If you are a PhD student and have not taken an introductory course in formal logic as an undergraduate, you are required to take an introductory course in formal logic in order to satisfy the program requirements. You can meet this requirement by earning a grade of B (3.0) or higher in Introduction to Symbolic Logic (Phil 2500) or in a higher-level course in formal logic.

If you are a PhD student, your Advisory Committee may decide in consultation with you that satisfaction of an additional Research Skills Requirement is necessary for you to carry out your Program of Study. For example, if you plan to work in Ancient Greek Philosophy, your Advisory Committee may require you to acquire a reading knowledge in Ancient Greek; if you plan to work in certain areas in Philosophy of Language or

Mathematics, your Advisory Committee may require you take an upper-level course in Formal Logic and/or coursework in mathematics; or if you plan to work in the Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence, your Advisory Committee may require you to acquire knowledge of a programming language.

The Research Skills requirement must be approved by the Director of Graduate Studies. The decision about a Research Skills Requirement should be made as early as possible, preferably before the end the student's third semester of coursework. A Research Skills Requirement may not be added to the student's program of study after the end of the student's fourth semester of coursework, unless the student changes her or his area of research. The Research Skills Requirement may include suitable undergraduate and graduate courses offered in any department at the University of Georgia, but must not require more than nine credit hours of course work. The Research Skills Requirement shall be satisfied if the student earns a grade of B (3.0) or higher in these courses.

If your Advisory Committee asks you to satisfy a Research Skills Requirement, this requirement should be included in your Preliminary and Final Program of Study forms.

Note on Special Graduate Courses

PHIL 8800 (Readings and Research in Special Problems in Philosophy): This course is intended to provide you with (1) the opportunity to pursue a topic that is not systematically dealt with in the current curriculum or is not there dealt with to the depth that is attainable by private independent study, and (2) the opportunity to prepare for degree examinations where for reason of conflict in schedule or the offering of the course, preparation by participation in the usual courses is impossible. Accordingly, to maximize the utility of our resources, PHIL 8800 should be available only if you can establish need under (1) and/or (2). You may count no more than one section of Phil 8800 towards satisfaction of the seminar requirement and you may include no more than 9 hours of PHIL 8800 on your Program of Study for the PhD.

You and your advisor determine the need or advisability for registration for PHIL 8800 and the most appropriate faculty member to direct the study, whose agreement you must also obtain. You must then complete a Departmental form describing the independent study, establishing need, and identifying a faculty member willing to direct the independent study. This request must be approved by your advisor and the director of the independent study before registration. The form is available on the philosophy department website. Please make a copy of the completed form and give it to the office staff to place in your file.

PHIL 9000/9300: You may use PHIL 9000 (Doctoral Research) for work relevant to your PhD before starting work on your dissertation. For example, if you are required to register for 12 credit hours—for instance, because you have a ROOST waiver or an assistantship—but only want to take 9 hours of actual coursework, you may register for PHIL 9000 to fill out the required hours. If you have been admitted to candidacy and are actively working on your dissertation, use PHIL 9300 (Doctoral Dissertation) instead. The instructor of record for these courses must be your advisor—your Major Professor if

you already have an Advisory Committee, and the Director of Graduate Studies if you do not have one yet.

You cannot use PHIL 9000 or 9300 on your Program of Study to count as a graduate level course or graduate level seminar. You may not register for PHIL 9300 (Doctoral Dissertation) before passing your prospectus defense and being admitted to doctoral candidacy.

When registering for any of these courses, please make sure you are registering for a section with your Major Professor—or the Director of Graduate Studies, in the case of new students—listed as the instructor (PHIL 9000 and 9300), or with the directing faculty member listed as the instructor (PHIL 8800). All of these sections are created on an as-needed basis by the office staff. If no section with the proper instructor's name appears in the system, please ask the office staff to create one for you. This is necessary to avoid problems with your grade at the end of the semester.

6.3 Qualifying Papers (Written Preliminary Comprehensive Examinations)

Passing the qualifying papers counts as passing your Preliminary Written Comprehensive Examination as required by Graduate School. If you were admitted to the program before Fall 2024, you must pass two qualifying papers within a maximum of five calendar years from the time of your first enrollment in a course included on your Program of Study. (If you were admitted in Fall 2024 or later, this policy does not apply.) Current Graduate School policy provides that in order to pass your written comprehensive examination you must receive a positive vote from your Major Professor and all or all but one of the other members of your committee. The two qualifying papers must be in two different areas in philosophy. These areas should be comparable to areas of specialization and/or competence in current job listings in philosophy.

You should attempt to pass both qualifying papers by the end of your third year in the PhD program, and you are advised to attempt to pass at least one qualifying paper by the end of your second year in the PhD program. In order to work on a qualifying paper, you may sign up for a section of Phil 8800 (Readings and Research in Special Problems in Philosophy) with the faculty member who supervises this paper *if* that faculty member agrees to do so. If you sign up for a section of Phil 8800 in order to work on a qualifying paper, you may count this section towards the fulfillment of the course requirements, but not towards the fulfillment of the seminar requirement.

Qualifying papers are expected to be of near publishable quality—that is, of sufficient quality that they might reasonably be submitted to a peer reviewed journal or conference. Qualifying papers will be in an area and on a topic determined by your Advisory Committee in consultation with you.

Qualifying papers must be a minimum of 6,000 words and should not exceed 8,000 words, excluding the bibliography. Your paper must be prepared according to the style requirements of a specific, peer reviewed journal agreed upon by you and your Advisory Committee. Your qualifying paper may be based on a term paper previously submitted

for a graduate course at the University of Georgia provided the instructor of the course approves.

You will write your qualifying paper under the supervision of one or two Philosophy Department faculty members acquainted with the area in which you are writing. Your supervising faculty may be drawn from your Advisory Committee, but your Major Professor may not supervise more than one qualifying paper.

Area, topic, and model peer reviewed journal for your qualifying paper require the unanimous approval of your Advisory Committee by, at the latest, the end of add/drop week of the semester in which you intend to submit your paper. It is your responsibility to have these parameters fixed and approved by your committee and submitted in writing to the Director of Graduate Studies by this deadline. It is also your responsibility to secure the consent of one or two faculty members to supervise your writing. There is a departmental form for this purpose that can be downloaded from our Departmental website.

The qualifying paper is due on Reading Day of the semester for which its proposal was approved. If you wish to turn in your paper at a later time, you must get the consent of the faculty member with whom you are writing your qualifying paper and of your advisory committee.

You must turn in both an electronic copy and a paper copy of your qualifying paper to the members of your Advisory Committee and the Director of Graduate Studies. The electronic copy should be in pdf format, unless another format has been agreed upon by you and your committee.

The members of your Advisory Committee will read and evaluate your paper according to the following categories: Pass or Fail. If your paper is placed in the Fail category, you may revise it in accordance with the comments and advice from your committee and resubmit it the following semester. A revised and resubmitted qualifying paper will be evaluated by your committee according to the same categories: Pass or Fail. A revised and resubmitted qualifying paper which is placed in the Fail category is equivalent to a second failure on a written examination, and will result in dismissal from the program effective at the end of the semester in which the paper was resubmitted. After your paper has been evaluated, it will be returned to you with comments and advice from your Advisory Committee and/or other members of the Department. Your paper must be evaluated by the members of your Committee and their decisions conveyed to the Director of Graduate Studies no later than two weeks after the date grades are due for the semester in which you submit the paper. The Director of Graduate Studies will then convey the results to the student.

6.4 Oral Preliminary Comprehensive Examination

You will take your oral preliminary examination after you have passed the written preliminary examinations and before your prospectus defense. Under the guidance of your Major Professor and in consultation with the other members of your Advisory Committee, you will draw up a list of readings related to the area in which you will work.

This list will typically contain no more than 10 items. This list has to be approved by your entire Advisory Committee before your oral preliminary examination. In the oral preliminary examination, your Advisory Committee will examine you on this list. Current Graduate School policy provides that in order to pass your oral comprehensive exams you must receive a positive vote from your Major Professor and all or all but one of the other members of your committee. If you do not pass the exam, you cannot retake it for at least 30 days. If you do pass the oral exam, your prospectus defense is usually held immediately following it, on the same day.

Your oral preliminary exam must be announced by the Graduate School. This announcement must be sent in by the Director of Graduate Studies at least two weeks prior to the exam. If this is not done, the Graduate School will not generate the form that is necessary for reporting that you have passed your oral and written preliminary exams. In addition, please note that the Graduate School will not accept the announcement from the Director of Graduate Studies unless you have an up-to-date Advisory Committee form and a Final Program of Study Form on file. Please see the Graduate School website for more details. The forms are available through GradStatus.

6.5 Failing a PhD Preliminary Comprehensive Examination

If you fail either PhD preliminary examination (a qualifying paper or your preliminary oral comprehensive examination), you must retake it the following semester, unless you obtain the permission of your Major Professor and all or all but one of your Advisory Committee to retake it at a later time.

If you fail the preliminary oral comprehensive examination, you cannot retake it for at least 30 days. It must then be rescheduled with your committee and the Graduate School for some time during the next semester. If you fail the preliminary oral comprehensive examination for a second time, you will be dismissed from the program effective at the end of the semester in which the examination was taken.

If you fail a qualifying paper, you must revise your paper and resubmit it by Reading Day of the next semester. If the revised qualifying paper fails, you will be dismissed from the program. You may obtain the permission of your Major Professor and all or all but one of your Advisory Committee to submit a qualifying paper in a different area and/or with a different topic, but it will still count as a retake of the failed qualifying paper exam, and failing it will result in dismissal from the program.

6.6 Dissertation Prospectus and Defense

Your Major Professor and Advisory Committee will guide you in planning your dissertation. You will prepare an eight-to-ten-page prospectus and a list of the sources used in formulating your project. Your Advisory Committee will examine you on your dissertation prospectus when your Major Professor certifies that it is satisfactory. At least two weeks before the examination, you will present your prospectus and list of sources to your Advisory Committee. The examination on your prospectus will focus primarily on the project described rather than the list of sources. The prospectus defense normally takes place on the same day as, and immediately following, the preliminary oral

comprehensive examination. If you fail your oral examination, however, you will not be allowed to defend your prospectus.

Your Major Professor and all or all but one of the members of your Advisory Committee must approve your prospectus defense. Your Major Professor and the Director of Graduate Studies must then sign the Application for Admission to Candidacy form approving your prospectus and advancing you to PhD candidacy. Approval of the prospectus signifies that members of the Advisory Committee believe that it proposes a satisfactory research program. Your Advisory Committee may require revisions in your prospectus and a new examination on the revised prospectus. If a major change in the dissertation project occurs, your Advisory Committee will decide whether you must defend a new prospectus.

6.7 Dissertation and Dissertation Defense

The dissertation may be written in either the traditional (book) or the manuscript (journal article) style. The Graduate School requires that in either case, the dissertation must include an introduction and literature review aimed at defining a problem, stating objectives, and reviewing relevant literature. The Graduate School also requires a concluding chapter or section discussing the major conclusions.

- *Traditional Style.* In addition to an introduction, literature review, and conclusion, this style must include chapters, as in a book. The number and length of chapters may vary, depending on the subject matter.
- *Manuscript Style.* In addition to an introduction, literature review, and conclusion, this style must include stand-alone papers, on the model of journal articles. The number and length of the papers may vary, depending on the subject matter. All the papers should be related by some over-arching theme or issue.

When your Major Professor is satisfied with the completed dissertation, she/he will certify that it has her/his approval and is ready to be read by your Advisory Committee members. Your Major Professor will then distribute copies of the dissertation to the remaining members of the Advisory Committee. Current Graduate School policy requires that your Committee must have at least three weeks to read and evaluate the completed dissertation. In the meantime, you must schedule a final oral defense, and ask the Director of Graduate Studies to notify the Graduate School. This notification must be submitted to the Graduate School at least two weeks before your defense. The Graduate School will announce the time and place of the defense of the dissertation to the University community. In the semester in which you intend to graduate, you must also complete a format check with the Graduate School. In order to complete the format check, you must electronically submit a complete formatted copy of the dissertation to the Graduate School by the due date posted on their website. Make sure to be mindful of this deadline.

Current Graduate School policy requires that all or all but one of your Committee members must certify in writing to your Major Professor their agreement that the dissertation is ready for defense. If your Advisory Committee declines to approve the

dissertation as ready for the final defense, your Major Professor will notify you and the Graduate School.

Your Major Professor will chair the defense of your dissertation, and all members of your Advisory Committee must attend. Current Graduate School policy provides that in order to pass your oral defense you must receive a positive vote from your Major Professor and all or all but one of the other members of your committee. All or all but one of the members of the Advisory Committee must approve your dissertation and defense and must certify their approval in writing on the Dissertation and Final Examination Approval form. The results of the defense of the dissertation must be reported to the Graduate School by the deadline set by the Graduate School. (<https://grad.uga.edu/current-students/important-dates-deadlines/>)

7. Program Requirements for the MA Degree

In order to obtain an MA Degree in Philosophy, you have to satisfy the Program Requirements. The program requirements for the MA Degree consist of the following components:

- Course Requirements (see section 7.1)
- MA Thesis and Defense (see section 7.2)

7.1 Course Requirements

If you are an MA student, then you must complete 30 hours of graduate course work. Your course work must include at least 24 hours of graduate courses (8 courses), including at least 4 seminars, and at least 3 hours of Phil 7300 (thesis writing). The remaining 3 hours may be Phil 7000 (research) or any other appropriate graduate course work.

You may, with the approval of your Advisory Committee, count graduate courses offered by other departments toward your minimum course requirement.

Note on Special Graduate Courses

PHIL 8800 (Readings and Research in Special Problems in Philosophy): This course is intended to provide you with (1) the opportunity to pursue a topic that is not systematically dealt with in the current curriculum or is not there dealt with to the depth that is attainable by private independent study, and (2) the opportunity to prepare for degree examinations where for reason of conflict in schedule or the offering of the course, preparation by participation in the usual courses is impossible. Accordingly, to maximize the utility of our resources, PHIL 8800 should be available only if you can establish need under (1) and/or (2). You may count no more than one section of Phil 8800 towards satisfaction of the seminar requirement and you may include no more than 9 hours of PHIL 8800 on your Program of Study for the MA.

You and your advisor determine the need or advisability for registration for PHIL 8800 and the most appropriate faculty member to direct the study, whose agreement you must also obtain. You must then complete a Departmental form describing the independent study, establishing need, and identifying a faculty member willing to direct the independent study. This request must be approved by your advisor and the director of the independent study before registration. The form is available on the philosophy department website. Please make a copy of the completed form and give it to the office staff to place in your file.

PHIL 7000/7300: You may use PHIL 7000 (Master's Research) for work relevant to your MA before starting work on your thesis. For example, if you are required to register for 12 credit hours—for instance, because you have a ROOST waiver or an assistantship—but only want to take 9 hours of actual coursework, you may register for PHIL 7000 to fill out the required hours. If you are actively working on your MA thesis, use PHIL 7300 (Master's Thesis) instead. The instructor of record for these courses must be your advisor—your Major Professor if you already have an Advisory Committee, and the Director of Graduate Studies if you do not have one yet. You cannot use PHIL 7000 or 7300 on your Program of Study to count as a graduate level course or graduate level seminar.

When registering for PHIL 7000 or 7300, please make sure you are registering for a section with your Major Professor—or the Director of Graduate Studies, in the case of new students—listed as the instructor. All of these sections are created on an as-needed basis by the office staff. If no section with the proper instructor's name appears in the system, please ask the office staff to create one for you. This is necessary to avoid problems with your grade at the end of the semester.

7.2 MA Thesis and Defense

Your Major Professor will guide you in planning your thesis. When your Major Professor certifies that your completed thesis has her/his approval and is ready to be read, she/he will distribute copies of the thesis to the remaining members of the Advisory Committee, schedule a final oral defense, and notify the Director of Graduate Studies. The committee members must have at least two weeks to read and evaluate the completed thesis.

One member of your Advisory Committee other than your Major Professor must approve your thesis as ready for the final defense in writing before the defense. If your Advisory Committee declines to approve the thesis as ready for the final defense, your Major Professor will notify you and the Director of Graduate Studies.

Your Major Professor will chair your thesis defense and all members of your Advisory Committee must attend the defense. Graduate School regulations require that the defense will consist of a public presentation followed by a private defense during which only the student and advisory committee will be in attendance. The public presentation is open to anyone who wishes to attend. Current Graduate School policy provides that in order to pass your thesis defense you must receive a positive vote from your Major Professor and all or all but one of the other members of your committee. Two members of the Advisory Committee must approve your defense and oral examination and must certify their

approval on the Thesis Defense and Final Examination Approval form. The results of the defense of the thesis must be reported to the Graduate School by the deadline set by the Graduate School. (<https://grad.uga.edu/current-students/important-dates-deadlines/>)

8. Change of Degree Objective

- 8.1 You may request to change your degree objective from PhD to MA before finishing your PhD. To do this, you must fill out the Request for Change of Degree Objective form available on the GradApply website. It must be signed by you, your Major Professor and the Director of Graduate Studies, and then submitted to the Graduate School for the signature of the Dean of the Graduate School. If your request is granted by the Graduate School, you must then complete any remaining requirements for the MA.
- 8.2 You may request to change your degree objective from MA to PhD before completing your MA. To do this, you must first petition the Graduate Faculty of the Department for approval by writing a letter to the Director of Graduate Studies explaining your reasons for requesting the change and detailing your qualifications for the PhD program. The Director of Graduate Studies will present your petition to the Graduate Faculty of the Department, who will vote whether or not to grant your petition. A majority vote is required. If your petition is granted, you must then fill out the Request for Change of Degree Objective form available on the GradApply website. It must be signed by you, your Major Professor and the Director of Graduate Studies, and then submitted to the Graduate School for the signature of the Dean of the Graduate School. If your request is granted by the Graduate School, you must then fulfill the requirements for a PhD student entering without an MA, but you may count the graduate courses you have taken in the Department toward the coursework requirements for the PhD.
- 8.3 If you wish to enter the PhD program after completing your MA and graduating, you must apply for readmission to the Graduate School as a PhD student. If you are admitted, you must then complete the requirements for a PhD student entering with an MA.

9. Annual Review of Graduate Students

- 9.1 The Graduate School policy on probation and dismissal provides that a department may dismiss any student at the end of any semester for failure to make sufficient academic progress. The department will therefore review your academic performance and your progress towards completion of your degree annually in the spring semester. The review process differs depending on the length of your residency in the program as outlined in the sections below.
- 9.2 *Annual Progress Report:* In order to facilitate this process, you must submit a concise annual progress report to the Director of Graduate Studies and to your Major Professor at the end of March. If you have not yet chosen a Major Professor, you must submit this report only to the Director of Graduate Studies. Your annual progress report should be no longer than one page. If you are an MA student, please state briefly which course requirements you have satisfied. If you are a PhD student and have not yet advanced to candidacy, please state in your report which program requirements you have satisfied at this point and which program requirements you are planning on satisfying in the coming

academic year. If you are a PhD student who has advanced to candidacy, please briefly describe what progress you have made towards the completion of your dissertation. All graduate students are also invited to report further achievements, such as presentations, publications, and achievements in teaching.

- 9.3 *Students in their first year in residence:* At the end of Spring Semester of your first year of residence in the MA or PhD program the Graduate Faculty will evaluate your academic performance. By vote the Graduate Faculty will classify your performance in one of the following categories: Satisfactory, Borderline, or Unsatisfactory. A rating of Borderline means that if your performance does not improve, then you are at risk of being removed from the program at your second-year review. A rating of Unsatisfactory means that the Graduate Faculty believes that you will not successfully complete the program. Receipt of an Unsatisfactory rating does not constitute expulsion from the program but does constitute advice to leave the program. Any first-year student receiving an Unsatisfactory rating should take this advice into account in deciding whether to continue.
- 9.4 *Students in their second year of residence:* The Graduate Faculty will evaluate your academic performance during the Spring Semester of your second year of residence and vote on whether to allow you to continue in the program or to dismiss you. They will evaluate you in three main categories: written performance, oral performance, and strong and weak areas as regards specific subject matter. If a majority of the faculty vote not to continue, and your Major Professor is present, then you will be dismissed. If your Major Professor is not present, another meeting will be scheduled with the Major Professor present, and the vote will be retaken. If you are dismissed, you will not be permitted to enroll for the following Fall Semester. After notification of a negative vote, you will have ten working days to appeal in writing to the faculty of the Department. If your appeal is denied, you may appeal to the Dean of the Graduate School.
- 9.5 *After passing the second-year review:* After you pass your second-year review, the Director of Graduate Studies will review your academic performance annually in the Spring Semester. If you are not making sufficient progress, the Director of Graduate Studies will discuss your record with your major professor, and, upon agreement, present your record to the Graduate Faculty for review. Conditions constituting failure to make sufficient academic progress include, but are not limited to: a grade point average falling below 3.0, a grade of Unsatisfactory in two consecutive courses or three grades of Unsatisfactory in total, failure to complete written or oral preliminary examinations in a timely manner, failure to defend a prospectus in a timely manner, and failure to make adequate progress writing the dissertation. The Director of Graduate Studies (or Major Professor) shall report the outcome of her or his review of graduate students to the Graduate Faculty of the Department annually in the Spring Semester.

If a review of your record by the Graduate Faculty of the Department is called for by the Director of Graduate Studies and/or your Major Professor, the Graduate Faculty of the Department in a meeting including your Major Professor will vote to classify your performance in one of the following categories: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory. A rating of Satisfactory means that you are making adequate and timely academic progress towards your degree. A rating of Unsatisfactory means that you are not making adequate and

timely progress towards your degree. Receipt of a first Unsatisfactory rating does not constitute dismissal from the program, but does constitute advice to apply yourself more diligently to completing the requirements for the degree so as to avoid dismissal. Receipt of a second Unsatisfactory rating does constitute dismissal from the program. The Graduate School will be notified that you have been dismissed, and you will not be permitted to enroll for the following semester. After notification of dismissal, you will have ten working days to appeal in writing to the faculty of the Department. If your appeal is denied, you may appeal to the Dean of the Graduate School.

10. Time Limits on Degree Programs

For students matriculated before Fall 2024, Graduate School policy holds that you must, pass two qualifying papers within a maximum of five calendar years from the time of your first enrollment in a course included on your Program of Study. Passing the qualifying papers counts as passing your Preliminary Written Comprehensive Examination as required by Graduate School.

For students matriculated before Fall 2024, Graduate School policy provides that if a PhD student fails to complete all requirements for the degree within five years of admission to candidacy, the student must retake the written and oral comprehensive exams and be readmitted to candidacy. The Department reserves the right to refuse such a student permission to retake the comprehensive exams, and to instead dismiss the student for failure to make sufficient academic progress.

For students matriculated in Fall 2024 and later, Graduate School policy states that, “Doctoral students must complete all requirements for the doctoral degree and the degree must be awarded within eight (8) calendar years after initial enrollment/registration in the program. For example, if the date of first registration for a doctoral student is the fall semester of 2024, the eight-year time limit expires in summer semester of 2032. The student’s time-to-degree clock starts with the first course approved for inclusion in their doctoral Program of Study, or the date of matriculation into the program, whichever occurred earlier.” Note that, under this definition, if you change your degree objective from MA to PhD, this will not restart the count on your time-to-degree-completion limit since the courses you took while being an MA student will appear on your Program of Study.

You may appeal to the graduate school for an extension of time, through the policy laid out here: <https://grad.uga.edu/policy-update-doctoral-time-limits>. The maximum extension of the degree time limit that may be granted is 24 months and the total time to degree shall not exceed 10 years.

Masters students, regardless of date of matriculation, must complete all requirements for the Master of Arts degree—including coursework, research skills requirement, thesis, and defense—within six (6) years of matriculation. The six-year limit begins with the semester the student matriculated into the program and ends with the last semester before the beginning of the sixth year.

Please note that these are graduate school requirements and the department cannot grant extensions.

ASSISTANTSHIPS

11. Criteria for Awarding Graduate Teaching Assistantships

- 11.1 There are two considerations in awarding Graduate Teaching Assistantships—to support students through the completion of their degree programs and to provide quality instruction at the undergraduate level. Graduate Teaching Assistants currently either assist a faculty member in a large section of an introductory course—for example, PHIL 2010, PHIL 2020 or PHIL 2030—or they teach two small sections per semester of introductory or mid-level undergraduate courses on their own. Under some circumstances, a Graduate Teaching Assistant may instead work solely as a grader for a faculty member, but this is unusual.

In addition to Graduate Teaching Assistantships, there are several types of Graduate Research Assistantship available through the Graduate School, for entering PhD students only. The Department must compete for these every year, and will automatically select the best qualified applicants to put forward as candidates. Successful candidates will serve as research assistants to faculty members for the duration of the award, and then will have a Departmental Teaching Assistantship for the remainder of their eligibility period.

- 11.2 Graduate Teaching Assistants and Graduate Research Assistants must apply for renewal of their assistantships every year. You must fill out and turn in a renewal application by January 15th. This application is available on the Department website and/or from the office staff. It requests information pertinent to your progress toward completion of your degree, as well as information about other academic achievements, such as publications or awards you have received. In addition, the Department will take into account your overall graduate GPA, grades for the preceding academic year, teaching evaluations for the preceding academic year, and any observation reports or other evaluations from your faculty teaching mentors for that period. Please request observation reports and/or other evaluations from all your teaching mentors—that is, faculty members you are assisting, or faculty members assigned to mentor you when you are teaching courses on your own—and check with the office staff or the Director of Graduate Studies to make sure they are in your file by January 15th.

If you enrolled in the program without an assistantship, you may apply for one. You are strongly advised to apply, since teaching experience and the like are required for getting an academic job. In order to apply you should fill out and turn in the same application that current graduate assistants use to request renewal by January 15th. Do not use the application designed for prospective students. In addition to your application, the Department will take into account your overall graduate GPA and grades for the preceding academic year as well as your original application. If you submit information

about it along with your application, the Department will also take into account teaching experience you have acquired elsewhere,

The Department will not award you a Graduate Teaching Assistantship unless, in the judgment of the faculty, you are making, and will continue to make, reasonable progress toward completion of your degree requirements. There is a presumption that your assistantship will be renewed if you are currently on an assistantship, you are making reasonable progress toward completion of your degree requirements, and you have not yet been awarded funding for the maximum period the Department normally allows (see section 12 below). The awarding of assistantships each year includes both continuing and prospective students applying for assistantships and is judged by the Student Affairs Committee, which then presents the results to the whole Department in a faculty meeting for ratification.

- 11.3 If you hold a Graduate Teaching Assistantship and you are placed on academic probation, you are subject to losing your assistantship as soon as the probation goes into effect. You will have ten working days following notification of the termination of your assistantship in which to appeal to the Graduate Faculty of the Department to retain the assistantship. The Department gives no assurance that it will restore an assistantship terminated under this policy if and when you satisfy the conditions for removing the probation.

12. Limits on Departmental Support for Graduate Students

- 12.1 Assistantships are awarded only to students actively pursuing a graduate degree in philosophy and are normally awarded for a full academic year. The Department reserves the right to award assistantships beyond the limits defined below if it deems that doing so best serves the interests of undergraduate instruction.
- 12.2 MA students are eligible to receive support for their first and second years of graduate study in the Department. PhD students are eligible to receive at most five years of support. PhD students are ineligible for support after their sixth year of graduate study in the Department, even if they have not received five years of support at that point. A year of graduate study in the Department is defined as any academic year during which a student is registered for at least three hours of credit with a graduate major in philosophy, with or without provisional status, in at least one of the Fall and Spring semesters. A student will be deemed to have used one year of eligibility for support for each academic year in which she/he receives at least one-third time Departmental or Graduate School support for at least one semester. Assistantships awarded for the summer are not considered in determining eligibility.

13. Graduate Assistant Assignments

- 13.1 Graduate Assistants may be assigned duties as research assistants, teaching assistants, graders, or solo instructors. Graduate Assistants receiving support through Graduate School assistantships are not permitted to undertake instructional duties. Instead, they are assigned to faculty members as Research Assistants. The Director of Graduate Studies

makes these research assignments in consultation with the Research Assistants prior to the beginning of each semester. Graduate Assistants receiving Departmental Teaching Assistantships are assigned instructional duties by the Head with the advice of the Director of Graduate Studies prior to the beginning of each semester. Graduate students receiving support through contracts or grants are assigned duties by the principal investigator(s).

- 13.2 Graduate students sometimes have the opportunity to teach in the Summer Semester. These appointments will be made to qualified graduate students on a rotating basis. These appointments will not count against eligibility for academic year appointments.
- 13.3 Most Teaching Assistants will serve as graders and discussion leaders in introductory courses. Normally, Teaching Assistants will not be permitted to work in PHIL 2500 (Symbolic Logic) until they have completed PHIL 6510 (Deductive Systems) with a grade of B or better. The standard format for introductory courses in the department is a class of 100 which meets two hours weekly for lecture by a faculty member and which divides into three discussion sections for one hour weekly. One Teaching Assistant is assigned to each of these large lecture classes, and is responsible for meeting three discussion sections each week, grading the exams and other assignments for the course, holding office hours, keeping class records, and other instructional duties as determined by the faculty member in charge of the course. The faculty member determines course material and syllabus, coordinates the lectures and the discussion sections, and has final responsibility for assignment construction and grades. Faculty members should observe their Teaching Assistant in a discussion section, ideally at least twice during the semester. Faculty members should discuss their observations with their Teaching Assistant. At the end of the semester, faculty members should write a summary report on the performance of their Teaching Assistant, and give one copy to the student and one copy to the office staff to be placed in the Teaching Assistant's file.
- 13.4 Teaching Assistants may be assigned primary responsibility for a course only if they satisfy the following conditions.
- The student holds an MA in philosophy or has passed the Department's written preliminary examinations for the PhD.
 - The student has worked as a grader or a teaching assistant for the course which he or she will teach.
 - The student has received favorable evaluations as a discussion leader.
 - Faculty for whom the student has served as discussion leader or grader certify that the student is ready for responsibility as instructor of record.
- 13.5 Any Teaching Assistant teaching his or her own section will be assigned a faculty mentor. These assignments are made by the Director of Graduate Studies prior to the beginning of each semester. The student should provide his or her mentor with a copy of the course syllabus for approval before it is distributed to the class. The mentor should observe the student in the classroom, ideally at least twice over the course of the

semester. The mentor should be available to provide the student with advice and help as needed during the semester. At the end of the semester, the mentor should write a summary report on the performance of the Teaching Assistant, and give one copy to the student and one copy to office staff to be placed in the Teaching Assistant's file. Before submitting the report, the mentor should also consult the teaching evaluations.

14. Assistantship Performance Requirements

- 14.1 All Graduate Assistants must perform all reasonable assignments effectively and efficiently. Failure to do so will be grounds for immediate termination of an assistantship.
- 14.2 All Graduate Assistants must be enrolled as full-time students in graduate courses in the Department. All Graduate Assistants must progress in a reasonable manner toward fulfillment of their degree requirements. This includes appointment of a Major Professor and an Advisory Committee, filing a Program of Study and other paperwork required by the Department or the Graduate School, and taking preliminary and other required examinations according to a reasonable schedule. Failure to do so will be grounds for immediate termination of an assistantship.
- 14.3 All Graduate Assistants will complete GRSC 7770 (or PHIL 7010 Teaching Philosophy, if offered) with a grade of Satisfactory during or prior to the first semester in which they have instructional responsibilities.
- 14.4 All Graduate Assistants are expected to attend orientations, workshops, colloquia, and other University or Department functions arranged for their benefit.

MISCELLANEOUS POLICIES

15. Graduate Student Moderator

The Graduate Student Moderator is a graduate student elected by the graduate students to be their representative in various Department matters. The Graduate Student Moderator attends Faculty Meetings, but will be excused when personnel matters or evaluations of graduate students are under discussion. The Graduate Student Moderator does not have a vote in Faculty Meetings but enjoys all other privileges of the floor, including the right to make or to second motions.

16. Right of Petition

You may petition the Graduate Faculty of the Department for an exception to any policy contained in this Handbook. In your petition you should specify the policy, the exception you are requesting, and your justification for requesting it. Your petition should be presented to the Faculty in a regular faculty meeting by your Major Professor, or by the Director of Graduate Studies if you do not yet have a Major Professor.

APPENDIX

How to finish your MA in two years:

Year	Term	Courses	Actions	Forms
1	Fall	- Two 6000-level PHIL courses - One 8000-level PHIL seminar (+ GRSC 7770 if teaching)	Complete GradFirst course during your first year	
	Spring	- Two 6000-level PHIL courses - One 8000-level PHIL seminar (+ 3 hours of PHIL 7000 if teaching)		
	Summer			
2	Fall	- One 8000-level PHIL seminar (+ 9 hours of PHIL 7000 if teaching)	- Constitute your Advisory Committee - Start working on thesis	- File Advisory Committee Form - File Final Program of Study
	Spring	- One 8000-level PHIL seminar 3 hours of PHIL 7300 (+ 6 hours of PHIL 7000 if teaching)	Complete and defend thesis	Apply for Graduation at the beginning of the semester

How to complete your PhD in five years (students who enter without an MA degree)

Year	Term	Courses	Actions	Forms
1	Fall	- Two 8000-level PHIL seminars - One 6000-level PHIL course (+ GRSC 7770 if teaching)	Complete GradFirst course during your first year	
	Spring	- Two 8000-level PHIL seminars - One 6000-level PHIL course (+ 3 hours of PHIL 9000 if teaching)		
	Summer			
2	Fall	- Two 8000-level PHIL seminars - One 6000-level PHIL course (+ 3 hours of PHIL 9000 if teaching)	Constitute your Advisory Committee	- File Advisory Committee Form - File Preliminary Program of Study
	Spring	- Two 8000-level PHIL seminars - One 6000-level PHIL course (+ 3 hours of PHIL 9000 if teaching)		
	Summer			
3	Fall	- Two 8000-level PHIL seminars - One 6000-level PHIL course (+ 3 hours of PHIL 9000 if teaching)	Complete your first qualifying paper	File Final Program of Study
	Spring	3 hours of PHIL 9000 (12 hours if teaching)	Complete your second qualifying paper	File Final Program of Study
	Summer			
4	Fall	3 hours of PHIL 9300 (12 hours if teaching)	Pass oral comprehensive exam and prospectus defense	- Schedule oral examination - File Admission to Candidacy Form
	Spring	3 hours of PHIL 9300 (12 hours if teaching)	Dissertation work	
	Summer			
5	Fall	3 hours of PHIL 9300 (12 hours if teaching)	Dissertation work	
	Spring	3 hours of PHIL 9300 (12 hours if teaching)	- Complete dissertation - Defend dissertation	Apply for Graduation at the beginning of the semester

How to complete your PhD in five years (students who enter with an MA degree)

Year	Term	Courses	Actions	Forms
1	Fall	- Two 8000-level PHIL seminars - One 6000-level PHIL course (+ GRSC 7770 if teaching)	Complete GradFirst course during your first year	
	Spring	- Two 8000-level PHIL seminars - One 6000-level PHIL course (+ 3 hours of PHIL 9000 if teaching)		
	Summer			
2	Fall	- Two 8000-level PHIL seminars - One 6000-level PHIL course (+ 3 hours of PHIL 9000 if teaching)		File Preliminary Program of Study
	Spring	- One 8000-level PHIL seminars (+ 9 hours of PHIL 9000 if teaching)	- Constitute your Advisory Committee - Complete your first qualifying paper	- File Advisory Committee Form - File Final Program of Study
	Summer			
3	Fall	3 hours of PHIL 9000 (12 hours if teaching)	Complete your second qualifying paper	
	Spring	3 hours of PHIL 9000 (12 hours if teaching)	Pass oral comprehensive exam and prospectus defense	- Schedule oral examination - File Admission to Candidacy Form
	Summer			
4	Fall	3 hours of PHIL 9300 (12 hours if teaching)	Dissertation work	
	Spring	3 hours of PHIL 9300 (12 hours if teaching)	Dissertation work	
	Summer			
5	Fall	3 hours of PHIL 9300 (12 hours if teaching)	Dissertation work	
	Spring	3 hours of PHIL 9300 (12 hours if teaching)	- Complete dissertation - Defend dissertation	Apply for Graduation at the beginning of the semester