

The following represents ideal progress towards the Ph.D. for those who do not enter the program with an M.A.

Year 1	Fall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 courses
	Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 courses
	Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students often use the summer after their first year to begin preparing for the Foreign Language Exam, which must be passed before the Preliminary Examination can be taken.
Year 2	Fall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 courses • Successful execution of TA responsibilities • Successful completion of Qualifying Review
	Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 courses • Successful execution of TA responsibilities
	Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation of Preliminary Examination committee and fields • Progress on field lists and Preliminary Examination preparation
Year 3	Fall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 or 2 courses • Successful execution of TA responsibilities • Completion of field lists for Preliminary Examination • Progress on fields essay and Preliminary Examination preparation
	Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 or 2 courses • Successful execution of TA responsibilities • Preliminary formation of MCM 0900 course if it is to be taught in • Completion of fields essay and successful completion of Preliminary Examination
Year 4	Fall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful completion of MCM 0900 course • Completion and approval of dissertation proposal by December 15
	Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful execution of TA responsibilities • Substantial progress on dissertation
Year 5	Fall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA or dissertation fellowship • Substantial progress on dissertation (If it appears that a sixth year will be necessary to complete the dissertation, discuss application for support from the Graduate School with the DGS and research any possibilities for outside funding.)
	Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA or dissertation fellowship • Completion of dissertation