

The following timeline is a visual representation of policy in the Graduate Handbook (<http://www.english.pitt.edu/graduate/handbook>) intended to help students plan and track their progress toward the PhD degree. Be sure to review these requirements in the Handbook. English Department and Dietrich School policies determine the deadlines by which key milestones must be accomplished, but the Graduate Procedures Committee has set up this timeline to encourage students to aim for passing milestones in advance of the deadlines, since missed deadlines mean that students are subject to disciplinary action.

LEGEND



Excellent progress



Good progress



Satisfactory progress but very close to the deadline



Past the deadline and subject to disciplinary action

Year	Tasks	Milestones		
		Submit Project Proposal	Take Project Exams	Finalize and Defend Prospectus
1	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take <i>Introduction to Graduate Studies</i> (1 cr.) <p>Keep in mind:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must take two designated core programmatic courses As needed: Pass a translation exam or take language coursework 			
2	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take <i>Intro to Comp Teaching Practicum</i> in fall Take <i>Seminar in Pedagogy</i> in spring Teach 1 course each semester <p>Keep in mind:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form project committee and begin work on project proposal Pass a translation exam or take language coursework 			
3	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form project committee in fall semester Submit approved project proposal by March 15 Fulfill language requirement before taking project exams Teach 1 course each semester <p>Keep in mind:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finish coursework Participate in Projects Forum this year or next 			
4	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit drafts of project papers by Aug. 31 Submit final project papers by Oct. 15 Take project exams by end of December Form dissertation committee and pass prospectus defense by end of April Teach 1 course each semester <p>Keep in mind:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider applying for competitive dissertation fellowships (January and April deadlines) Apply for MA 			
5	<p>Continued progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work toward finishing dissertation Consider applying for competitive dissertation fellowships (January and April deadlines) If funded as a TF, teach 1 course each semester As needed, and if available, apply for an additional year of TF funding, a VI position, and part-time teaching Hold annual committee meeting 			
6 on	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work toward finishing dissertation <p>Keep in mind:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To remain an active student, it is essential to register for 1 cr. per academic year Registration is required to process all milestones Hold annual committee meetings 			