

Recommended Timelines for Program Completion

(Updated 8/2017)

MS in Sociology

First Year

**Complete 16-19 credits of coursework

**Choose a MS thesis advisor by the end of the spring semester (May)

(Note: You must choose a thesis advisor and additional committee members in order to submit the Plan of Study before completing your second semester in the MS program)

Second Year

**Complete remaining 6-9 credits of coursework (or more) and 6 hours of thesis credits

(Note: If you take additional courses beyond the 25 credits of coursework and 6 thesis credits, do NOT include them on your MS plan of study [you may then count them toward the PhD])

**Defend the MS thesis proposal by the end of the fall semester (December)

**Defend the MS thesis by the end of the second year (April for Spring graduation; July for Summer graduation [check the graduate college website for the specific date in a given year])

PhD in Sociology

First Year

**Complete 18-19 credits of coursework (including required theory and methods courses: SOC 5113, SOC 5123, SOC 5243, SOC 5263, & SOC 5273)

**Choose two areas of concentration and begin taking classes in these areas

Second Year

**Complete 18 credits of coursework

**Prepare for the first comprehensive exam

**Choose a doctoral thesis advisor by the end of the second year (May)

(Note: You must choose a thesis advisor and additional committee members in order to submit the Plan of Study before the end of your third semester in the doctoral program)

Third Year

**Complete the remaining 5-9 non-doctoral thesis credits of coursework

**Pass the first comprehensive exam by the beginning of the third year (August)

**Pass the second comprehensive exam by the middle of the third year (January)

**Defend the doctoral thesis proposal by the end of the third year (May)

Fourth Year

**Complete the 15-18 hours of doctoral thesis credits

**Apply for jobs beginning in the early fall (September)

**Defend the doctoral thesis by the end of the fourth year (April for Spring graduation; July for Summer graduation [check the graduate college website for the specific date in a given year])