Graduate Studies in Physics
Ph.D. Degree Requirements

Course Requirements
To allow students the flexibility to choose courses that are related to their field of research, there is no set course track for physics graduate students. However, there are a few requirements:

- All students must take three graduate-level courses (600-level or above)
- All students must take two semesters of a physics seminar course.
- All students must take the Foundations and Frontiers of Physics seminar.

Candidacy Requirements
To advance to candidacy, all students must:

- Pass a section of the Qualifying Exam when it is given OR Pass PHYS 610 & 612 (Part A) and PHYS 611 & PHYS 613 (Part B) with a grade of B or better.
- Give a Preliminary Research Presentation. This presentation is expected to be given within a year after passing the Qualifying Exam.
- Submit a Scholarly Paper. This paper should be written within four years of entering the graduate program.

Ph.D. Requirements
To graduate with the Doctor of Philosophy degree, all students must:

- Take at least 12 credits (2 semesters) of Doctoral Dissertation Research (PHYS899). Students who have reached candidacy will be registered for 6 credits of PHYS899 each semester until they graduate.
- Successfully defend his/her dissertation.
- Complete all of the requirements for advancing to candidacy

Ph.D. Program Timeline

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<th>Year 1</th>
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| Pass Qualifying Exam | Advance to Candidacy | Electives & Seminars | Doctoral Dissertation Research
| Recommended First-Year Courses Fall: 610, 612 Spring: 611, 613 | | • Three graduate-level courses (600-level or above) | Two semesters of 899 |
| Foundations and Frontiers of Physics Non-credit required seminar | | • Two semesters of physics seminars | Finalize Dissertation Committee Members |
| Find a Research Group | | Complete Preliminary Research Presentation and Scholarly Paper | | | | |
| Graduate! | | | | | | |