Timeline for Doctoral Student Success

Student actions, TDSS and Graduate School programming, and additional NC State resources to guide you throughout your graduate school experience.

Coursework

- Attend Orientation
- Attend "Writing in Graduate School" workshop
- Meet faculty in your program
- Research degree requirements and timeline
- Attend "Developing your Daily Writing Habit" workshop
- Meet with your subject librarian
- Attend "Forming an Advisory Committee" workshop
- Form an advisory committee
- Complete Graduate Plan of Work
- Keep notes on possible dissertation ideas

Preliminary Exams

- Form a peer support group
- Take preliminary exams
- Attend "Writing a Dissertation Proposal" workshop
- Attend a Literature Review workshop with NC State Libraries
- Attend Professional Development workshops and classes
- Get dissertation proposal approved
- Attend a TDSS Writing Retreat
- Visit the Graduate Writing Center
- Apply for the Teaching and Communication Certificate
- Attend ETD workshop

Dissertation

- Meet with your Chair regularly
- Drop-in to a Graduate student workshop with the Counseling Center
- Attend a Thesis and Dissertation Institution
- Apply for Preparing the Professoriate
- Attend “Planning for your Dissertation Defense” workshop
- Committee and ETD revisions
- Graduation

Please note: This timeline is offered as a suggested guideline for graduate student success, and all milestones are approximate. Each doctoral program has different requirements, so be sure to research and follow the specific guidelines and deadlines of your own program.