You may want to move more quickly than good standing deadlines require. Adhering to a faster schedule will give you more time to write your dissertation, and it will allow you to position yourself better as a publishing scholar. It will also put you in a position to enter the job market during your sixth year and to do a second job search during the final year of your funding in case your 6th-year job search is not successful.

1. Coursework and plan of work development.

2. Coursework. Select and recruit your exam committee. Draft Exam Proposal in Directed Readings (76-911) with your exam committee chair. Have exam proposal approved by committee and read by program faculty by April to secure the Ph.D. Qualifying Exam Summer Stipend (PES). Present a public paper.

3. Pass exams in early fall semester. Mull, frame argument, draft prospectus as you are reading for exams. Have prospectus approved by dissertation committee. Language requirement completed and ABD status attained by end of spring semester.

4. Draft 1 or 2 chapters. Initial Plan of Work must be approved by the Graduate Committee. Submit for the Dissertation Completion Summer Fellowship (DCSF) by April 1st.

5. Draft 3 or 4 chapters. Turn one dissertation chapter into an article and submit it to a refereed journal. Submit for the Dissertation Completion Summer Fellowship (DCSF) by April 1st.

6. Draft 1 or 2 chapters. Go on job market if committee agrees you are ready. In the spring semester, revise and defend dissertation. If job search successful, be certified to graduate and graduate. If job search unsuccessful, Year 7 is available as grace year.