Fall 2021

Doctoral Student Calendar Deadlines

July 5

For those students scheduled to take their comprehensive exam in September, a draft copy of your dissertation proposal must be given to your Dissertation Advisor by this date or you will be dropped from your scheduled exam. You will not receive your comprehensive exam questions until your Dissertation Advisor reports to the Workforce Education and Development (WFED) program office that the Dissertation Advisor has received an acceptable draft copy of your dissertation proposal.

July 12

Comprehensive Exam Questions. WFED Administrative Assistant distributes comprehensive exam questions to students that are completing their comprehensive exam in September. Students have six weeks to answer these questions. Answers to the comprehensive questions, along with the final draft dissertation proposal, need to be submitted to your Dissertation Advisor at least three weeks prior to your scheduled exam date. However, please check with your Dissertation Advisor as to when they would like your answers to the comprehensive questions and a copy of your final draft dissertation proposal, as some Dissertation Advisors would like them sooner than the three week deadline. Upon the Dissertation Advisor approval, answers to the comprehensive questions, along with the final draft dissertation proposal must be submitted by the student to all committee members no later than two weeks before the scheduled exam.

August 23

Final Draft Dissertation Proposal Submission to Dissertation Advisor. Deadline for students to submit a copy of the final draft dissertation proposal and answers to comprehensive questions to the Dissertation Advisor for the comprehensive exam in September.

August 31

Final Draft Dissertation Proposal Submission to Committee. Deadline for students to submit to their committee members a copy of the full, final dissertation proposal and answers to comprehensive questions for the comprehensive exams in September. Failure to meet this deadline results in cancellation of the comprehensive examination.

Final Draft Dissertation Submission to Dissertation Advisor. Deadline for students to submit to the Dissertation Advisor a final draft dissertation for approval to take the final oral exam in September.

September 6

Full, Final Dissertation Submission to Committee. Student distributes to committee members a copy of the full, final dissertation, which was approved by the Dissertation Advisor for the final oral exam in September. Failure to meet this deadline results in cancellation of final oral examination.

September 13-September 17

Comprehensive Examination. Comprehensive examination administered by student's doctoral committee. Presentation of dissertation proposal required. Requires registration at Penn State during current semester.

September 20-September 24

Final Oral Examination. Final oral examination administered. Requires registration at Penn State during current semester. In order to graduate in the Fall semester, please see Dissertation calendar (see http://gradschool.psu.edu/current-students/etd/thesisdissertationperformance-calendar/

October 8

Comprehensive Examination and Final Oral Examination Scheduling for Spring. Deadline for approval of scheduling the comprehensive examination or final oral examination. Student must submit a checklist (https://ed.psu.edu/lps/workforce-ed/documents) signed by both student and dissertation advisor to WFED Administrative Assistant. After submitting the checklist, the student is responsible for finding a common date/time with their doctoral committee for the Spring exam during scheduled weeks in February and April (see Spring Calendar). The student is responsible for communicating the date/time with the Workforce Education and Development Administrative Assistant so the paperwork can be completed and a room can be reserved.

November 8

Final Draft Dissertation Submission to Dissertation Advisor. Deadline for students to submit to the Dissertation Advisor a final draft dissertation for approval to take the final oral exam in December.

November 15

Full, Final Dissertation Submission to Committee. Student distributes to committee members a copy of the full, final dissertation, which was approved by the Dissertation Advisor for the final oral exam in December. Failure to meet this deadline results in cancellation of the final oral examination.

November 29

For those students scheduled to take their comprehensive exam in February, a draft copy of your dissertation proposal must be given to your Dissertation Advisor by this date or you will be dropped from your scheduled exam. You will not receive your comprehensive exam questions until your Dissertation Advisor reports to the Workforce Education and Development (WFED) program office that the Dissertation Advisor has received an acceptable draft copy of your dissertation proposal

November 29- December 1

Final Oral Examination. Final oral examinations administered. Requires registration at Penn State during current semester. Please see the dissertation calendar: http://gradschool.psu.edu/current-students/etd/thesisdissertationperformance-calendar/

December 6

Comprehensive Exam Questions. WFED Administrative Assistant distributes comprehensive exam questions to students that are completing their comprehensive exam in February. Students have six weeks to answer these questions. Answers to the questions, along with the final draft dissertation proposal, need to be submitted to your Dissertation Advisor at least three weeks prior to your scheduled exam date. However, please check with your Dissertation Advisor as to when they would like your answers to the questions and a copy of your final draft dissertation proposal, as some Dissertation Advisors would like them sooner than the three week deadline. Upon Dissertation Advisor approval, answers to the questions, along with the final draft dissertation proposal must be submitted to all committee members no later than two weeks before scheduled exam.