PHY Doctoral Student’s Timeline to Graduation

Note: This timeline may be adjusted, as needed, for MS students or students in the Planetary Sciences Track.

**Admission to UCF Physics Graduate Program**
Student is admitted to the PhD program in Physics
Student attends Orientation & completes all the necessary requirements before the 1st day of class

**First Year**
Complete 24 CHs (Core Courses – 18 Research – 6)
- PHY 5606 – QMI (FA)
- PHY 5346 – EDI (FA)
- PHY 6246 – CM (FA)
- PHY 6624 – QMI (SP)
- PHY 6347 – EDII (SP)
- PHY 5524 – ST PHY (FA)
- PHY 6918 or IS 6908 (SU)

**Second Year**
Complete 24 CHs (Formal Electives 12, Remaining Electives/Research 12)
- Complete CITI Training & RCR Workshops (prior to candidacy status)
- Meet with Program Director

**Third Year**
Complete Remaining electives
Obtain Candidacy Status

**Fourth Year+**
Complete minimum 15 Doctoral Dissertation Hours
PHY 7980
Continue to work on your research, but plan for defense

**Successfully Defend your Doctoral Dissertation**
Job Search
Exit Interview

**Graduate with a PhD in Physics**
(Students have 7 years from the time of Admission to complete their degree)

Graduate Students must at minimum:
- Maintain a GPA of 3.0 or above
- Attend 1-2 conferences and/or present their research work
- 1-2 publications (or accepted publications) in peer-reviewed journal by graduation

* A 7-year Completion Plan is submitted by the student’s 5th year in the program.

**Effective SU20 - Students on Thesis or Dissertation must provide IRB Approval or “Not Human Subjects Research” letters.**