# PHY Doctoral Student's Timeline to Graduation

Note: This timeline may be adjusted, as needed, for MS students or students in the Planeta<mark>ry Sciences</mark> 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

Complete GTA training

Take the **Physics Diagnostic Exam**(if applicable)

Complete New
Hire Paperwork
(if applicable)

Register for classes

#### First Year Complete 24 CHs

(Core Courses – 18 Research – 6)

PHY 5606 – QMI (FA) PHY 5346 – EDI (FA) PHY 6246 – CM (FA) PHY 6624 – QMII (SP) PHY 6347 – EDII (SP) PHY 5524 – ST PHY (SP) PHY 6918 or IS 6908 (SU)

### Complete an Initial Plan of Study

by the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester (Fall) Post-Core Diagnostic Exam (Spring) Student has multiple attempts

multiple attempts to take/pass the Written Candidacy Exam by their 2nd year (Refer to the rules & guidelines)

#### 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

Seek a Research Advisor/Form Initial Committee

Deadline to Pass the Written Candidacy Exam

Consider an
Internship or other
Summer research
opportunity

#### **Third Year**

Complete Remaining electives

Obtain Candidacy
Status

#### Take/Pass the Oral Candidacy Exam

(Dissertation
Proposal), after
passing the
written
candidacy exam,
by the summer
of their 3rd year

#### Fourth Year+

Complete minimum
15 **Doctoral Dissertation Hours**PHY 7980

Continue to work on your research, but plan for defense

## Meet at least once per year

with Advisor and the Doctoral Dissertation Committee

Consider an Internship or other Summer research opportunity

Successfully
Defend your
Doctoral
Dissertation

**Job Search** 

**Exit Interview** 

Meet at least once per year with Advisor and the Doctoral Dissertation Committee Graduate with a PhD in Physics

(Students have 7 years from the time of Admission to complete their degree)\*

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

#### 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

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