# Physics Doctoral Student's Timeline to Graduation

Note: This timeline may be adjusted, as needed, for Physics MS students.

#### 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
(if applicable)

Take the **Physics Diagnostic Exam** 

Complete New Hire Paperwork (if applicable)

Register for classes

#### First Year Complete 24 CHs

(Core Courses – 18 and 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

(including requests to transfer credit hours) by the end of the 1st semester (Fall)

Student has 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 Academic Integrity Training (prior to candidacy status)

Annual Progress
Review (with advisor)

### Finalize 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

Annual Progress
Review (with advisor)

#### 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

Exit Interview

Job Search

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.