Timeline for the Ph.D.

**STEP 1:** Begin Ph.D. Study. Be sure to make satisfactory progress.  
(See PhD Handbook, pp. 9-11.)

- **Yes** Proceeded to Step 2 within 3 years?  
  (See PhD Handbook, pp. 10, 12-15.)
  - Satisfy 7 requirements to take the prelim.  
    (See PhD Handbook, p. 14.)

- **No**
  - You are failing to make minimal satisfactory progress. Continued enrollment, fellowships, and assistantships are jeopardized. See your advisor about applying for an extension. If you do not pass the prelim within five years, you must apply to the Graduate Program Committee for readmission to the Ph.D. program.  
  (See PhD Handbook, pp. 13, 15.)

**STEP 2:** Pass Prelim.

- **Yes** Proceeded to Step 3 within 2 years after Step 2? (See PhD Handbook, p. 16.)
- **No**

**STEP 3:** Submit approved proposal at least one semester before the Final Oral Exam.

- **Yes** Proceeded to Step 4 within 5 years after Step 2? (See PhD Handbook, pp. 15-16.)
  - Obtain warrant for Final Oral Exam.  
  - **STEP 4:** Earn Ph.D.

- **No**  
  - Grad School’s Five-Year Rule requires a 2nd prelim.