

# Checklist and Timeline for the PhD Program

## OVERVIEW

The PhD Program in Design and the Built Environment is a cross-disciplinary doctoral program, with a minimum of three years (61 credits) or four years (87 credits), depending on the track. Students are expected to complete core courses, elective courses, comprehensive exams, and dissertation research. In most cases, students enter the program with a master's degree in architecture, landscape architecture, or a related field and discipline. The doctoral program has two different tracks toward earning a PhD: Common Track: 61 credits beyond a master's degree. Foundational Track: 26 credits beyond a bachelor's degree + 61 credits of Common Track. This checklist starts year 1 of the Common Track.

### YEAR 1

Spring 1

Selection of Advisor Deadline

Selection of Advisory Committee

Complete **GS2D** (Plan of Study), after first year

### ADDITIONAL NOTES

Students should contact their intended advisor before applying for the program. Students are not admitted to the program without a faculty member having indicated willingness to serve as Major Advisor.

Final GS2D due one semester before graduation. For more information on GS2D click [here](#). (Link to Clemson graduate school Plan of Study Page)

### YEAR 2

Spring 2

Schedule Exams with Committee Members

Complete Minimum of 52 credit hours, by the end of year 2

Comprehensive Written Exam

Comprehensive Oral Exam

Comprehensive Exams take place after completion of core classes. This is typically May of second year – for common track students.

Admission to Doctoral Candidacy. *Takes place after completion of written and oral exams and at least 6 months prior to graduation.*

### YEAR 3

Fall 3

Approval of Dissertation Proposal

Complete **GS5d** at least 6 months prior to graduation

Complete **GS** Form

Minimum of 21 Hours of Doctoral Research completed

Spring 3

**Diploma application** within first 4 weeks of graduation semester

**Order Cap and Gown**

Submit Dissertation 1st Draft (at least 8 weeks before final defense)

Final defense (at least 3 weeks before graduation)

### COUNTDOWN TO GRADUATION

- Submit final dissertation (approved copies at least 2 weeks before final defense)
- Submit **GS7D** two weeks prior to graduation
- Submit completed manuscript to graduate school for formatting review (minimum two weeks before graduation)
- Complete all formatting revisions of manuscript (at least one week before graduation)
- Written notification of defense submitted to enrolled services (at least 10 days before defense)