



# Ph.D. Program Checklist

## ALL SEMESTERS

- ☐ Enroll in courses and/or research (6-9 graded credits per semester)
- ☐ Register for MSE 6401 (1 credit)

## YEAR 1

### Semester 1: Advisor & Research

- ☐ Enroll in at least 2 MSE core courses (5301, 5309, 5322, or 5334)
- ☐ Discuss research interests with faculty
- ☐ Begin work in research group
- ☐ Maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0
- ☐ Prepare for qualifying exam

### Semester 2: Start Research

- ☐ Pass qualifying exam (early January)
- ☐ Enroll in research (MSE 6950) and/or additional courses

## YEARS 2 & 3

Serve as a grader for 2 semesters

Continue to take graded courses toward your degree

Upon *Plan of Study* approval by Graduate School, start proposal

### Form an advisory committee

- ☐ Choose 1 major advisor and 2 associate advisors
- ☐ Note: advisory committee guidelines (<http://gradcatalog.uconn.edu/grad-school-info/advisory-system/>)

### Submit *Plan of Study* to the Graduate School (after 18 credits completed)

<http://grad.uconn.edu/current-students/forms/>

## YEARS >3

Prepare Dissertation

Complete 30 graded course credits and 15 graded research credits

### Dissertation Proposal/General Exam

- ☐ Provide a copy of proposal to advisory committee 1 week in advance
- ☐ Defend proposal
- ☐ Submit proposal hard copy, dissertation proposal approval, and general exam forms to Graduate School (at least 6 months before final Ph.D. defense)

## FINAL DEFENSE

For a complete checklist of required steps visit:  
<http://grad.uconn.edu/current-students/doctoral-degree-program/dissertation-information/>

Apply for graduation in Peoplesoft during last semester

Provide dissertation to advisory committee 2 weeks in advance of defense

Defend dissertation and obtain signatures of advisory committee

Complete IMS checkout form

Announce final defense 2 weeks in advance on UConn and MSE event calendars

Review dissertation submission checklist in link above

### Submissions

- ☐ Submit 1 electronic copy of dissertation to Digital Commons
- ☐ Submit completed dissertation checklist, 1 approval page, final exam form, and receipt of earned doctorate survey to Graduate School

