PENN/GSE PhD TIMELINE:

Education Policy

1. **Coursework** – Sixteen courses required, in accordance with EP Ph.D. Planned Program of Study (PPS).
   
   *Recommendation is to complete coursework during first two years.*

   Upon completion of coursework, EP submits signed PPS to SRO.

2. **Qualifications Evaluation** – Review or exam, conducted after the completion of 6 but not more than 8 CUs. This is also referred to as Program Candidacy.

   *This is completed through the submission and subsequent review by faculty of doctoral students’ annual self-evaluation, at the end of the first year.*

   Upon approval by the faculty, EP submits a ballot to SRO.

3. **Candidacy Examination** – Usually referred to as the Preliminary or Comprehensive exam. Successful passage bestows Doctoral Candidacy.

   *Recommendation is to complete during the first year after coursework is completed.*

   Upon completion, EP submits a ballot indicating exam results to SRO.

4. **Appointment of Dissertation Committee** – Completed by student via online form at same time as oral hearing of proposal is scheduled.

5. **Oral Hearing of Dissertation Proposal** – Student submits Hearing Notification Form (online) prior to Hearing.

   *Recommendation is to complete in second semester of year 3 or the first semester of year 4.*

   Upon completion of Oral Hearing, student submits Committee Ballot for Dissertation Proposal to SRO.


   *Recommendation is to complete in second semester of year 4 (final semester of funding).*

   Upon completion, student submits Committee Ballot for Dissertation Defense and Form 152 to SRO. Later, student submits formatted Dissertation and Form 153 to SAS/College Hall.

Standard timeline: 4 years

Maximum time to degree: 10 years

Revised 5/2017