Roadmap to Success: Sample Timeline Doctoral Degree*

**ACADEMIC YEAR 1**

- **FALL**
  - Coursework
  - TA/GSR
  - Research

- **SPRING**
  - Coursework
  - TA/GSR
  - Research
  - Preliminary Exam*

- **SUMMER**
  - Research

**ACADEMIC YEAR 2**

- **FALL**
  - Coursework
  - TA/GSR
  - Research
  - Prepare for Qualifying Exam

- **SPRING**
  - Coursework
  - TA/GSR
  - Qualifying Exam
  - Research Proposal

- **SUMMER**
  - Research

**ACADEMIC YEAR 3**

- **FALL**
  - GSR
  - Research
  - Write papers
  - Communicate results
  - Professional preparation

- **SPRING**
  - GSR
  - Research and write

- **SUMMER**
  - Research

**ACADEMIC YEAR 4/5**

- **FALL**
  - GSR
  - Prepare Dissertation

- **SPRING**
  - Defend Dissertation
  - Submit Final Dissertation

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*This graphic is for demonstration purposes only. For specific details regarding the Ph.D. requirements, please consult with your graduate program handbook and your advisor.