

Individualized Dissertation Timeline Plan to Completion

Student Name:		Expected Graduation Date:		Chair:	Date Timeline Established:			
Handbook Deadlines	Dissertation Milestones to Be Completed	To Be Completed By	Actually Completed On	Notes / Revised Completion Date	Chair Signature	Date	Student Signature	Date
	Discuss topics with one or more faculty member (Let your advisor know your final plans once you choose a topic and chair)	1st / 2nd Year			Advisor Signature			
	In PSY 837: Research, begin preparing a research proposal that may be used in your dissertation project (begin discussing/ sharing with whom you have in mind for a Chair)***	2nd Year			Advisor Signature			
	Choose Chair - January of 3rd Year	January 3rd Yr						
Spring 3rd Year	Pre-Proposal Presentation	March 3rd Year						
	First Draft of Proposal to Chair	June 1st						
	Choose Committee Members (2)	Sum 3rd Yr		Member 1: Member 2:				
	Complete Literature Review							
	Write Proposal							
	Update Committee Members on Progress; Send final draft proposal to Chair August 1; When approved, send to committee, check proposal mtg committee availability for 2-4 weeks after; Schedule proposal meeting	Sum 3rd Yr Aug 1						
Before Oct 15 4th Year	Proposal Meeting (Complete Proposal Evaluation Forms)	October 15 4th Year						
	Identify sample							
	Identify measures							
	IRB Approval							
	Train any research assistants							
	Recruit / Train coders							
	Conduct data collection							
	Conduct data analysis							
	Write-Up results							
	Write discussion section							
	Send to Chair, make requested revisions							
	Send to Committee							
	Schedule Defense Date							
	Defend (bring Proposal Evaluation Forms)							

***Note about Theoretical Dissertations
 Students electing to complete a theoretical dissertation do not have to use clinical projects in the PSY 837 research proposal. In addition, those steps required for empirical dissertations, such as IRB approval, do not need to be done. However, because of the challenges inherent in successfully completing a theoretical dissertation this should only be undertaken by students with excellent writing and organizing skills and with the capacity for creative work.