



The University of Georgia

Department of Statistics

Guidelines for Statistics PhD Students Revised Fall 2023

Year 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete year 1 core courses (see coursework for details) 2. Take the QEP (Theory and Data Analysis) in August of Year 1
Year 2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete Year 2 core courses 2. Re-take the QEP if either part was failed in Year 1 3. Choose advisor and research topic 4. May earn MS along-the-way, if requirements are met
Year 3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete coursework 2. Choose Doctoral Advisory committee members (at least 4 members including the major and co-major professors) 3. Take the comprehensive exam (written and oral). 4. Summer internship
Year 4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete dissertation proposal 2. Summer internship
Year 5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apply for graduation through Athena 2. Defense 3. Exit interview

Coursework

All doctoral students must complete Year 1 core + Year 2 core + 6 electives.

Year 1 Core:	Fall	Spring
Statistical Methods:	STAT 6420	STAT 6430
Mathematical Statistics:	STAT 6810	STAT 6820
Linear Model Theory:		STAT 8260
Stat. Collaboration:		STAT 8000

Year 2 Core	Fall	Spring
Adv Prob, Adv. Inf.	STAT 8170	STAT 8530
Comp., Bayesian Inf.	STAT 8060	STAT 8350

- STAT 6420 is not required for PhD Students, but recommended for those weak in this area
- STAT 8000 is not required for PhD students, but recommended prior to Data Analysis QEP
- STAT 6810, 6820 & 8260 have 1-unit supplements (6811, 6821, 8261) that are required

Electives: All 8000-level courses, **EXCEPT:**

- STAT 8040, 8200, 8250, and any other 8000-level course aimed at students who are not in Statistics
- STAT 8910 and 8920

- We allow 8000 level courses from other departments upon the advisory committee’s approval.

Other Relevant Course Comments:

1. As required by the graduate school, all new graduate students must take GSRC 7001 (1 credit GradFIRST seminars) in their first or second semester. The Statistics Department currently offers its own version of GSRC 7001 in the Spring semester. For more information, please see <https://grad.uga.edu/index.php/gradfirst/#:~:text=GradFIRST%20seminars%20will%20improve%20awareness,by%20UGA%20graduate%20program%20faculty.>
2. [By UGA’s TA Policy](#), all graduate students with instructional duties must complete GRSC 7770 prior to or concurrently with their first TA-ship.
3. All supported students (TA/RA/CA) must take at least 12 credit hours for Fall/Spring semester. Other full-time students without support must take at least 9 credit hours for Fall/Spring semester.
4. [By UGA’s TA Policy](#), international TAs must demonstrate English proficiency by taking the language courses LLED 7768 and 7769. If TOEFL speaking score ≤ 22 , please take both courses. If $23 \leq$ TOEFL speaking score ≤ 25 , take only LLED 7769. If TOEFL speaking score > 25 , no need to take the language courses. If one takes LLED 7769 (TOEFL speaking score > 22) in the Fall, one needn’t take GRSC 7770. If one takes LLED 7769 (TOEFL speaking score > 22) in the Fall, one needn’t take GRSC 7770.
5. All supported students must enroll in STAT 8910 (1 credit) to attend departmental colloquia from second to sixth semester.
6. STAT 9000 is repeatable for maximum 84 hours credit and STAT 9300 is repeatable for maximum 65 hours credit.
7. One must include STAT 9300 in the program of study (see the sample program of study on the last page) when one takes the comprehensive exam. Thus, one would probably want to include 9300 in year 3 depending on when one takes the comprehensive exam.

Suggested courses for PhD students

Year 1	Fall	GRSC7770 (TA)	LLED7768/7769*	6810 - 6811	6420 or 1 elective
	Spring	6430 GRSC7001 (All new students)	8260 - 8261	6820 - 6821	8910 and 8000 (could be taken in Summer)
Year 2	Fall	8060	8170	8910+8920	1 elective
	Spring	8350	8530	8910	2 electives
Year 3	Fall	8910		9000	1 elective
	Spring	8910		9000	1 elective
Year 4 - 5				9000	9300

*International TAs only: LLED 7768 (TOEFL speaking score ≤ 22) or LLED7769 ($23 \leq$ TOEFL speaking score ≤ 25). If one takes LLED7769 (TOEFL speaking score > 22) in the Fall, one needn’t take GRSC7770.

Qualifying Exam for PhD (QEP)

To be qualified as a doctoral student, a student admitted to the PhD program must pass the Theory and Data Analysis parts of the PhD Qualifying Exam (QEP). Both parts of the QEP will be offered once per year in August. **More details about the exam can be found in the graduate handbook.**

(i) Before the first Fall semester, a student may attempt one or both parts of the QEP or may not attempt any part of the QEP. Before the first Fall semester, if a student passes one or both parts of the QEP, then the following first-year PhD core-course waiver policy will apply:

Pass QEP-T and QEP-DA: Exempt from STAT 6810-1, STAT 6820-1, STAT 8260-1, STAT 6430

Pass QEP-DA only: Exempt from STAT 6430

Pass QEP-T only: Exempt from STAT 6810-1, STAT 6820-1

Pass neither: Must take all the first-year PhD core courses

(ii) Before the second Fall semester, a student who has attempted one or both parts of the QEP previously must attempt the uncleared part(s) of the exam, but a student who has not yet attempted the QEP must attempt both parts of the exam.

(iii) To remain in the PhD program, a student must pass both parts of the exam before the third Fall semester, with no more than two attempts allowed for either part of the QEP.

The [Graduate Coordinator for Advising](#) will send out a sign-up sheet for the QEP in April. Previous years' QEP exams are available on the S: drive. If you do not have access to the S: drive, you may ask the Graduate Coordinator for the OneDrive link to the old exams.

Comprehensive Exam

1. Notify the [Student Affairs Professional](#) and [Graduate Coordinator for Advising](#) when one plans to take the Comprehensive Exam.
2. Program of Study, Advisory Committee forms, and the time and the location of the oral part of the Comprehensive Exam must be submitted to Graduate School at least 2 weeks prior to the oral exam. The forms must be submitted at <https://grad.uga.edu/index.php/current-students/forms/>.
3. A sample PhD program of study is shown on the last page of this document.

Dissertation Proposal

1. Notify the [Student Affairs Professional](#) and [Graduate Coordinator for Advising](#) before one schedules his/her proposal.
2. Schedule proposal with advisory committee. Notify the [Graduate Coordinator for Advising](#) and the [Student Affairs Professional](#) with the time and location of the proposal presentation.
3. After the proposal presentation, submit Application for Admission to Candidacy form online at <https://grad.uga.edu/index.php/current-students/forms/>.

Defense

1. Notify the [Student Affairs Professional](#) and [Graduate Coordinator for Advising](#) before one schedules the defense.
2. Schedule defense with advisory committee.
3. Please ensure that you send the defense date, location, as well as the dissertation's title and abstract to the [Student Affairs Professional](#) at least two weeks before the scheduled defense date.
4. After defending, submit Approval Form for Doctoral Dissertation and Final Oral Examination (G164) on Grad Status (<https://gradstatus.uga.edu/Forms>).

Exit Interview

1. Return your office key to the departmental [Administrative Associate](#).
2. Complete the on-line exit interview form. The [Student Affairs Professional](#) will send you the link to the exit interview form.

Internship

1. Notify the [Graduate Coordinator for Advising](#) and fill out the google form at <https://forms.gle/yp1PUx6GcQ9NXWn48>
2. For international students, one must apply for CPT through the Office of Global Engagement. To apply for CPT, one must register for STAT 7700 (an internship course) for the semester of the internship.

Doctoral Program of Study

1. The Program of Study should consist of at least 18 hours of approved 8000-level courses in addition to dissertation writing (9300) and directed study (9000). No grade below C will be accepted on the Program of Study. To be eligible for graduation, one must maintain a 3.0 (B) average on the graduate transcript and a 3.0 (B) average on the Program of Study.
2. Courses must be listed throughout consecutive semesters, except that Summers may be omitted.
3. **No courses used for another degree may be listed.** Do not list any 6000- or 7000-level courses.
4. There is no need to list more than 30 hours.
5. **Three hours of 9300 must be included for the last semester** on the Program of Study. At most 9 hours of 9000 may be included on the Program of Study.
6. A student may include 1 hour of STAT 8910 and 2 hours of STAT 8920, or 3 hours of STAT 8910 on the Program of Study.

A Sample Program of Study for PhD students

<i>Subject / Course #</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Term</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Grad Level Only?</i>	<i>Validated? Grad School Only</i>
STAT 8060	3	A-	Fall	2019		
STAT 8170	3	A	Fall	2019		
STAT 8350	3	B	Spring	2020		
STAT 8530	3	A	Spring	2020		
STAT 8900	3	A-	Spring	2020		
STAT 8910	1	A	Spring	2020		
STAT 9000	3	S	Spring	2020		
STAT 8210	3	A	Fall	2020		
STAT 9000	6	S	Fall	2020		
STAT 9300	3		Spring	2021		