PHD DEGREE OBJECTIVE CHECKLIST

Steps toward degree and timeline for adequate progress:

1. Major Professor (form) [end of 1st semester]
2. Advisory Committee (forms) [end of 2nd semester]
3. Preliminary Program of Study (form) [end of 2nd semester]
4. Dissertation Proposal Defense (form) [4th or 5th semester]
5. Human Subjects [Yes  No]
   If yes, project approval  #____________
6. Final Program of Study (form) [4th or 5th semester] Must be approved by Grad School before Oral Comp Exam can be scheduled

7. Written Comprehensive Exam [4th or 5th semester]
8. Oral Comprehensive Exam (form) [4th or 5th semester] All information must be provided to Graduate Coordinator’s office three weeks prior to desired date for oral exam.
9. Admission to Candidacy (form) [end of 5th semester]
10. Graduation Application (online) [Before beginning of 8th semester] Please note Graduate School Website for Deadline.
11. Doctoral Dissertation Approval And Final Oral Examination (form) [end of 8th semester]

Program of Study Checklist (32 hours):

Graduate School Requirements:
30 hours of degree credit: Must include 16 hours of course work at 8000- and/or 9000-level, excluding GEOG 9000, 9005, 9300 and all independent study or directed problems courses; 3 hours of GEOG 9300 must be counted in the required 30 hrs.

Departmental Requirements:

Core (4 core courses (8 hours) must appear on your Program of Study):

- GEOG 8900 (1 hr) (Repeat if taken at Master’s level).
- GEOG 8901 (1 hr) (Repeat if taken at Master’s level).
- GEOG 8910 (3 hrs) (Unless taken at Master's level or waived by permission of instructor if student has completed a similar course in Master's program elsewhere. If waived, 1 additional 3-hour graduate-only course, not including GEOG 9000 or any Directed Problems course from any department, must be substituted).
- GEOG 9300 (3 hrs) (You are not allowed to enroll in this course more than once (3 hrs only) prior to passing Written & Oral comprehensive exams)

Electives (8 additional graduate-level courses (24 hours), or 9 additional grad-level courses (27 hours) if waived from GEOG 8910, according to the following conditions):

- Four (4) courses (12 hours), or 5 courses (15 hours) if waived from GEOG 8910, must be above the 8000 level. These courses plus GEOG 8900, 8901 & 8910 surpass the Grad School’s 16 hr requirement for 8000-level courses).
- GEOG 9000 cannot be counted among the 8 (9) courses
- No more than 3 hrs of Directed Problems courses from Geography (e.g., GEOG 8290, 8390, 8590, 8690) or any other department can appear on the Program of Study
- GEOG 6920 & 6921 cannot appear on the Program of Study

Department Research Skills Requirement:

- At least 6 hours of graduate-level “skills” classes approved by doctoral committee. [see appropriate section of the Policies and Procedures document for additional details].