GUIDE TO MAINTAINING PROGRESS TOWARDS A Ph.D.
Department of Political Science

• First Year Expectations for Progress
  ▪ Fall Semester Courses
    o POLS 510
    o POLS 512
    o Graduate Core Seminar
  ▪ Spring Semester Courses
    o POLS 511
    o POLS 513
    o Graduate Seminar in major field
  ▪ First Year to do
    o Determine advisor, get advisor’s consent, and, in writing, notify the DGS

• Second Year Expectations for Progress
  ▪ Fall Semester Courses
    o Graduate Seminar in major field
    o Graduate Seminar in minor field/CFC
    o Graduate Seminar in minor field/CFC
  ▪ Spring Semester Courses
    o Graduate Seminar in minor field/CFC
    o Graduate Seminar in minor field/CFC
    o Graduate Seminar in minor field/CFC

• Third Year Expectations for Progress
  ▪ Fall Semester Courses
    o Graduate Seminar in minor field/CFC
    o Graduate Seminar
    o Graduate Seminar 600-Level
  ▪ Spring Semester Courses
    o Graduate Seminar 600-Level
    o 6 Dissertation Hours (600)
  ▪ Third Year to do
    o Schedule PhD Qualifying Exams (exam cannot be taken with incompletes)
    o Complete PhD primary field exam
    o Complete CFC exam/literature review
    o Select PhD dissertation committee, and, in writing, notify the DGS of the Committee Chair
    o (Defend Dissertation Prospectus)

• Fourth/Fifth Year(s) Expectations for Progress
  ▪ Fourth/Fifth Year to do
    o Complete Dissertation Hours (600)
    o Field work as necessary
    o Schedule Graduation
    o Submit Admission to Candidacy Form
    o Submit Graduate Application
    o Complete Dissertation
    o Schedule Dissertation Defense
    o Defend Dissertation