

Ten Year Policy

Students are expected to complete their Ph.D. degrees within 10 years. (Ten years is measured as time elapse since the first quarter of registration in the graduate program.) As stated in the UW Graduate School Policy, “Periods spent On-Leave or out of status are included in these limits” In the unusual situation in which a student requires more than 10 years to complete their degree the GWSS department requires that the student work with their advisor(s) and their supervisory committee to develop a detailed timeline for completion of the degree. This plan must be approved, in writing, by the student’s Supervisory Committee and the GWSS faculty as a whole. Development and approval of the extended timeline for completion of the degree must be completed by the end of the second quarter of the student’s 9th year of study so that the department’s Graduate Program Advisor can submit a petition for extension of the 10 year limit for a time period consistent with the approved extended-completion timeline before the end of the student’s 9th year.

Student progress during the extension period will be monitored closely by the department faculty and failure to meet deadlines established in the approved degree-completion timeline will result in the following:

1. Missing a timeline deadline will result in a departmental **Warning**, at which time the student must meet with their committee chair(s) **to update** the timeline for completion of the degree.
2. Continued failure to meet deadlines, will result in a final restructuring of the timeline by the student’s committee and in the department recommending that the Graduate School place the student on academic **Probation**.
3. Continued failure to meet deadlines while on academic Probation will result in the department recommending that the Graduate School place the student on **Final Probation**. A student placed on final probation will have one quarter to bring their work to completion (or back into alignment with the approved timeline). Failure to do so will result in the student’s dismissal from the Ph.D. program.