

Graduate Catalog Policies:

Academic Policies, Procedures and Requirements

Continuous Enrollment

Continuous enrollment is defined as being registered in both Fall and Spring if registering for course work. If a student has been admitted to either masters or doctoral degree candidacy, continuous enrollment in candidacy status is required for the Fall, Spring and Summer terms (only one term of registration is required in summer terms). Students must be enrolled during the semester in which they wish to graduate.

Degree Requirements

Qualifying Examination and Candidacy

The applicant for a Doctor of Philosophy and Doctor of Education degree must pass a qualifying examination, oral or written, or both. Its purpose is to verify that the student has sufficient understanding of and competence in his/her field to become a candidate for the degree. This examination may be referred to by some programs as the preliminary, comprehensive, or candidacy examination. To be eligible for this examination, the student must have satisfactorily completed the major portion of the prescribed course work and must have met the foreign language requirement of the program. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the program's policy on the consequences in the case of failure of all or part of the examination. A student who fails the examination may not be allowed to retake it more than once.

A doctoral degree student must have been admitted to candidacy not later than the end of the ninth month prior to the awarding of the degree, that is:

- August graduation - November 30 of preceding year
- December graduation - March 31 of same year
- May graduation - August 31 of preceding year

Although the prescribed course work may have been completed, the candidate must maintain an active registration status until the degree is awarded (see previous section on General Academics Policies and Requirements, subsection Maintaining Candidacy).