# Biological Sciences Graduate Program Ph.D. degree timeline and checklist (both options): 2021-2022

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| Requirement | Timing | Notes |
|  | Year One |  |
| Meet with advisor | at or before start of 1st semester | Initial curriculum and research planning |
| Responsible Conduct of Research training | first semester | <http://www.unh.edu/research/rcr-training-unh> |
| BIOL 901 (Intro Grad Seminar) | first fall semester | Core requirement |
| BIOL 806, 811, 933 *or* other graduate course approved by advisor & committee | 1st year | Experimental design/analysis competency; prior graduate coursework may fulfill |
| Preliminary research proposal | end of 1st semester | Usually as part of BIOL 901 |
| **PhD Guidance committee** formed | end of 1st semester | **Submit form to Graduate School** |
| Annual progress review by GPC  | spring semester | **Student and advisor reports** submitted in advance; GPC provides feedback |
| First committee meeting | spring semester | Present & get feedback on research proposal and summer research plans |
| Seminar presentation | spring semester | Coordinate with committee meeting if possible |
| Teaching/mentoring experience | (may be any year) | As defined by committee |
|  | Year Two |  |
| Formal committee meeting | once per year |  |
| Ph.D. dissertation proposal | by end of 2nd year | Submit to advisor & committee |
| Presentation in UNH Graduate Research Conference, or other public seminar on campus | spring semester | Presentation of thesis research at a professional meeting may substitute |
| Annual progress review by GPC  | spring semester | **Student and advisor reports** submitted in advance; GPC provides feedback |
|  | Additional Years |  |
| Formal committee meeting | once per year |  |
| Annual progress review by GPC  | spring semester | **Student and advisor reports** submitted in advance; GPC provides feedback (not required in final year) |
| Presentation in UNH Graduate Research Conference | spring semester | Presentation of thesis research at a professional meeting may substitute |
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| Qualifying exam (oral and written components) | by end of fifth semester | Condition for advancement to candidacy |
| **advancement to candidacy** | by end of fifth semester | **Submit form to Graduate School** |
| **PhD Dissertation committee** formed | upon advancement to candidacy | **Submit form to Graduate School** |
| Ph.D. defense: public seminar, oral exam by committee | in final year | replaces annual seminar presentation and progress review |