

Benchmarks and Timeline: HDFS MS/PhD

Benchmarks:	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Metrics	
	Fa	Sp	Fa	Sp	Fa	Sp	Fa	Sp	Fa	Sp	Fa	Sp	Fa	Sp	Target	Maximum for satisfactory
Human Subject Protection Training	█														During 1st semester	End of 1st semester
Required Master's Coursework	█														2 years (4 semesters)	2 years (4 semesters)
Thesis proposal defense			█												1.5 years (3 semesters)	2.5 years (5 semesters)
Thesis defense				█											Prior to beginning of 5th semester	3 years (6 semesters)
Required PhD Coursework			█												1 year (2 semesters) after MS completion	1.5 years (3 semesters) after MS completion
Preliminary Planning (Candidacy) Meeting					█										2nd semester after MS completion (last semester of PhD coursework)	3rd semester after MS completion (last semester of PhD coursework)
Prelim Defense							█								1.5 years (3 semesters) after MS completion	2 years (4 semesters) after MS completion
Dissertation Proposal Defense									█						1 semester after passing the prelims	1 year (2 semesters) after passing the prelims
Dissertation Defense											█				1 year (2 semesters) after dissertation proposal	1.5 years (3 semesters) after dissertation proposal

Fa=Fall Semester; Sp=Spring Semester. Assumes full-time study; part time students should create an individual plan with their advisor.

Updated 5/15/2024