



REQUIREMENTS FOR CANDIDACY FOR PhD STUDENTS : THREE COMPONENTS

1. Successful completion (minimum average of B+ standing) of 5 courses comprising three full course equivalents (FCE) by end of second year in the program including:

- NUR 1081: PhD Seminar (1.0 FCE);
- Field of Study Course (0.5 FCE) that includes one of the following:
 - NUR 1085 (for students in the critical perspectives in health and healthcare field of study) or,
 - NUR 1086 (for students in the Nursing Health Systems field of study), or
 - NUR 1087 (for students in the ECHO field of study);
- One “method” course (0.5 FCE) relevant to the field of study and dissertation plans (selected in consultation with thesis supervisor);
- One “substantive” course (0.5 FCE) relevant to the field of study and dissertation plans (selected in consultation with thesis supervisor);
- Either a method or substantive area course (0.5 FCE) (selected in consultation with thesis supervisor).

2. Successful completion of the Literature Review Paper :

- The literature review paper topic as well as type and format of the literature review paper are discussed and approved by the student and supervisor.
- The supervisor sends the signed “Record of PhD Student Literature Review Paper Topic and Format” approval form to the Registrar by **March 1st of the first year**.
- The literature review paper is submitted to the thesis supervisor by **September 30th of the second year**.
- The thesis supervisor and at least one additional thesis committee member provide written and verbal feedback on the submitted literature review paper to the student at a supervisory committee meeting, usually within 3 weeks of submission.
- The thesis supervisor and at least one additional thesis committee member document whether approval of the literature review paper is completed on the Record of Supervisory Committee Meetings. The progress ranking provided on the Record of Supervisory Committee Meetings should reflect the committee members’ review of the literature review paper.

- If approval of the September literature review is not obtained, the student will have an additional opportunity to **revise and re-submit the literature review paper by December 1st of the second year**, taking into account the written feedback provided by the thesis committee members. As with the September submission, the thesis supervisor and at least one additional thesis committee member provide written and verbal feedback about the December submission of the literature review paper to the student at a supervisory committee meeting, usually within 3 weeks of the December submission. The thesis supervisor and at least one additional thesis committee member provide approval that the December submission of the literature review paper is completed on the Record of Supervisory Committee Meetings.

3. Successful defense of the Thesis Proposal:

- Students are normally expected to defend their thesis proposal **by the end of the second year of their program**, resulting in a “satisfactory” or “excellent” progress rating on the Record of Supervisory Committee Meetings, with the completion date recorded.
- Options for format of the thesis include both the traditional thesis model and thesis by publication /manuscript format. The student and the supervisory committee members together determine the thesis format by the time of proposal defense (ideally as early as possible in the student’s program, and before defense of the proposal).