

# Typical Action Plan for a Graduate Career

This is a general example of a typical course outline. For more specific details, please refer to the [Field Requirements](#) and the [Ph.D. Rules and Guidelines](#).

\*Skills courses refer to game theory/formal modeling, econometrics, foreign languages, or electives (lower division foreign language courses do not count toward PhD credits)

## First Year

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <b>Fall</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 203A – Analytic Theory I</li><li>• 204B – Quantitative Methods I</li><li>• Field Requirement or Skills Course*</li><li>• Integrated Workshop</li></ul>        |
| <b>Winter</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 204A – Research Design</li><li>• Field Requirement or Skills Course*</li><li>• Field Requirement or Skills Course*</li><li>• Integrated Workshop</li></ul>    |
| <b>Spring</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 203B – Analytic Theory II</li><li>• Field Requirement or Skills Course*</li><li>• Field Requirement or Skills Course*</li><li>• Integrated Workshop</li></ul> |

*Key Objectives:* Complete at least nine courses and to start writing a seminar paper.

## Second Year

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>Fall</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Field Requirement</li><li>• Skills Course*</li><li>• Substantive Course</li><li>• Integrated Workshop</li></ul>                  |
| <b>Winter</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Field Requirement</li><li>• Skills Course*</li><li>• Substantive Course</li><li>• Integrated Workshop</li></ul>                  |
| <b>Spring</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Field Requirement</li><li>• Skills Course*</li><li>• Substantive Course/Directed Reading</li><li>• Integrated Workshop</li></ul> |

*Key Objectives:* Complete at least eighteen courses, finish **seminar paper**, and pass **general comprehensive exam**.

## Third Year

- Fall**
- Substantive Course
  - Skills Course\*
  - Integrated Workshop
- Winter**
- Substantive Course
  - Skills Course\*
  - Integrated Workshop
- Spring**
- Substantive Course
  - Skills Course\*
  - Integrated Workshop

*Key Objectives:* Select a Prospectus Advisor at the start of the year, organize a Dissertation Committee, defend the **prospectus**, and advance to candidacy by year's end. Students are strongly encouraged to continue taking substantive and skills courses.

## Fourth Year

- Fall**
- Independent Research on Dissertation
  - Apply for grants/research funding
  - Defend Prospectus (if haven't already done so)
  - Integrated Workshop
- Winter**
- Independent Research on Dissertation
  - Integrated Workshop
- Spring**
- Independent Research on Dissertation
  - Integrated Workshop

*Key Objectives:* Advance to candidacy (if have not already), conduct research for dissertation. Some students may do field research or run experiments. Students must advance to candidacy by the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> year!

## Fifth/Sixth Year

- Dissertation Research/Field Work
- Write and Defend Dissertation
- Job Search

*Key Objectives:* Complete dissertation, defend before your committee, and enter the job market.