The Graduate School’s Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

**MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES**

**PRIOR COURSEWORK**

**Graduate Credits Earned at Other Institutions**
No credits from other institutions are allowed to transfer toward the minimum credit requirement and the minimum graduate coursework requirement.

**Undergraduate Credits Earned at Other Institutions or UW-Madison**
No credits from an undergraduate degree are allowed to transfer toward the minimum graduate degree credit requirement and the minimum graduate coursework requirement.

**Credits Earned as a Professional Student at UW-Madison (Law, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Veterinary careers)**
No credits from a UW-Madison professional degree are allowed to transfer toward the minimum credit requirement and the minimum graduate coursework requirement.

**Credits Earned as a University Special Student at UW-Madison**
No credits earned as a UW–Madison Special student are allowed to transfer toward the minimum residence credit requirement, the minimum credit requirement, or the minimum graduate coursework requirement.

**PROBATION**

Refer to the Graduate School: Probation (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1217/) policy.

**ADVISOR / COMMITTEE**

A major professor must be chosen as soon as possible after beginning graduate study and in all cases by the end of the first year. A vice major professor is required.

Students meet with an advisory committee before their first semester and with their thesis committee by the end of their first year to plan their coursework.

Students are required to conduct a yearly progress report meeting with their thesis committee after passing the preliminary examination.

**CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED**

15 credits

**TIME LIMITS**

The doctoral degree is typically completed within five to six years. Refer to the Graduate School: Time Limits (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1221/) policy.

**GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS**

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/)
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure)
- Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/)
  - Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/)
- Employee Assistance (http://www.eao.wisc.edu/) (for personal counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)
- Employee Disability Resource Office (https://employeedisabilities.wisc.edu/) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
- Graduate School (https://grad.wisc.edu/) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions)
- Office of Compliance (https://compliance.wisc.edu/) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)
- Office Student Assistance and Support (OSAS) (https://osas.wisc.edu/) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
- Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/) (for conflicts involving students)
- Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty and staff)
- Title IX (https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/) (for concerns about discrimination)

Students should contact the department chair or program director with questions about grievances. They may also contact the L&S Academic Divisional Associate Deans, the L&S Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning Administration, or the L&S Director of Human Resources.

**OTHER**

Assistantships are only available for thesis MS and PhD degrees.