

Doctoral Thesis Schedule

To submit a Doctoral Thesis, you must meet the following requirements:

1. To have undertaken the stipulated research guidance, and to have received, or be in prospect of receiving, the requisite course credits.
2. To have submitted a “Doctoral Thesis Plan”.
3. To have undergone and passed a “Doctoral Thesis Preliminary Examination”.
4. To have undergone and passed an “Intermediate Review”.
5. At least one article already published or forthcoming in a refereed academic journal (including the GSICCS annual bulletin, *Transcommunication*) or in the transactions of a scholarly society.
6. Maintain a record of the process of creating the Doctoral Thesis from the point of entry into the program in an “Academic Portfolio” (including memos of all research supervision and independent study sessions, the Doctoral Thesis Preliminary Examination, Intermediate Review and the like).

Year	Semester		Courses				April Entry	September Entry
			Directed research (Core Study)	Independent Study	Seminar A	Seminar B		
1st year	1	•Submission of initial Doctoral Thesis Plan	Undertake directed research until you pass the final examination of Doctoral Thesis.	Complete all required courses within two years or four semesters of entry to the program.			April (prior to Admission)	September (prior to Admission)
				2 courses, Required subject taught by other than research director.	2 courses 4 credits Required subject	2 courses 4 credits Required subject		
		•Set up and Manage Academic portfolio	Students keep a record for their “Academic Portfolio (prescribed format)” after every class (Directed Research or Independent Study) and submit it to the instructor by e-mail, or in printed form, by the end of the semester. Students will be given feedback based on the “Academic Portfolio” completed by the instructor, in either printed or digital form. Students are required to save these printed or digital copies for their own records. For more details, please refer to “Concerning the Academic Portfolio and its Submission”.				End of the semester	End of the semester
	2	•Set up and Manage Academic portfolio					End of the semester	End of the semester
2nd year	3	•Set up and Manage Academic portfolio					End of the semester	End of the semester
	4	•Submission of Doctoral Thesis Plan	Students submit a “Doctoral Thesis Research Plan (prescribed format)” approved (signed) by the primary research director to the Graduate School Office. Please indicate which language you would like to use when you submit the Doctoral Thesis. *Without submission, your Doctoral Thesis submission will be delayed for half a year (one semester).				By the end of September	By Early April
		•Determination of deputy research directors	Following consultation between the doctoral student and faculty members, the primary research director submits the “Appointment of Doctoral Thesis Deputy Directors (prescribed format)” to the Graduate School Office. Selection of the deputy directors should be made within two years (or four semesters) of the student entering the program.				By Early November	By Early May
		•Apply for Doctoral Thesis Preliminary Examination	If you want to apply for a “Doctoral Thesis Preliminary Examination”, please submit “Application for Doctoral Thesis Preliminary Examination (prescribed format)” approved (signed) by the three research directors (primary and deputy).				By the end of November	By Early June
		•Doctoral Thesis Preliminary Examination (Conducted publicly within the Graduate School.)	Based on the submitted Doctoral Thesis Research Plan, an oral defense will be conducted. The examination is 60 to 90 minutes. Research ethics guidance will be given by the primary research director after the “Doctoral Thesis Preliminary Examination”. *If you do not pass the examination, your Doctoral Thesis submission will be delayed for half a year (one semester). If students fail the “Doctoral Thesis Preliminary Examination” three times, they will be excluded from the program.				By the end of January	By the end of July
		•Set up and Manage Academic portfolio					End of the semester	End of the semester
3rd year	5	•Application for Intermediate Review	Submit “Doctoral Thesis Progress Report·Application for Intermediate Review (prescribed format)” approved (signed) by the three research directors (primary and deputy).				By the end of April	By Early October
		•Intermediate Review (carried out publicly within the university)	Carried out together with Master’s Program Interim presentation. This review judges whether the candidate is permitted to continue writing the Doctoral Thesis. Review is 60 to 90 minutes. *If you do not pass this examination, your Doctoral Thesis submission will be delayed for half a year (one semester).				Around Mid-May to Mid-June	Around Mid-November to Mid-December
		•Set up and Manage Academic portfolio					End of the semester	End of the semester
	6	•Submission of “Doctorate Intention to Submit Form”					By Mid-September	By Mid-April
		•Doctoral Thesis submission	Submit an Application for the Award of the Doctoral Degree (prescribed format) with the approval (signature) of the three research directors (primary and deputy), four copies of the completed Thesis, and an abstract to the Graduate School Office. Moreover, along with the Doctoral Thesis, the student should also submit an original copy of at least one article already published or forthcoming in a refereed academic journal (including the GSICCS annual bulletin, <i>Transcommunication</i>) or in the transactions of a scholarly society.				By the end of October	By Mid-May to Late May
		•Establishment of the Doctoral Thesis Examination Committee	After submission of the Doctoral Thesis and Application for the Award of the Doctoral Degree, the Doctoral Thesis Examination Committee will be Established. In principle, evaluation of the Doctoral Thesis should be completed within two or three months of the acceptance of the Application for the Award of the Doctoral Degree. If inadequacies come to light during the process of evaluation, necessary revisions and corrections to the Thesis may be carried out.				By November GSICCS Steering Committee	By June GSICCS Steering Committee
		•Final Oral defense	Following the submission of an Application for the Award of the Doctoral Degree, a minimum period of six weeks must elapse before the holding of the final oral defense to allow the research directors to evaluate the Doctoral Thesis with due care.				By Mid-January to Late January	By Late June to Early July
		•The final decision will be made by the GSICCS Steering Committee					Late February	Late July

*The above schedule is a model for students who intend to complete the Doctoral Program in 3 years.

If you do not complete the necessary procedures by the given deadline, your Doctoral Thesis submission will be delayed by half a year (one semester) in each case.