

Doctoral Student Persistence, Completion and Time to Degree

School/College and Program	Cohorts Entering 2005-06 through 2009-10									Degrees Awarded	
	Entering Students in Cohorts	% Withdrawn < 5 years	Cumulative Completion Rates			Advanced to Candidacy				2015-16 through 2017-18	
			≤ 6 years	≤ 8 years	Total	% Advanced to Candidacy	Median Time to Candidacy	% Withdrawn <3 years after Candidacy	Total % Completing after Candidacy	Doctoral Degrees Awarded	Median Time to Degree
Humanities and Fine Arts	280	27.1%	14.6%	35.7%	53.2%	70.4%	3.5	6.1%	75.6%	115	7.7
Afro-American Studies	20	25.0%	20.0%	40.0%	60.0%	80.0%	3.0	6.3%	75.0%	16	6.5
Comparative Literature	24	33.3%	0.0%	20.8%	45.8%	70.8%	4.5	5.9%	64.7%	11	9.0
English	95	28.4%	14.7%	36.8%	49.5%	62.1%	3.8	0.0%	79.7%	28	8.0
German and Scandinavian Studies	10	30.0%	0.0%	30.0%	70.0%	70.0%	5.3	0.0%	100.0%	5	9.7
Hispanic Literatures and Linguistics	24	25.0%	8.3%	37.5%	58.3%	70.8%	3.6	17.6%	82.4%	16	7.5
History (UMass/Five College)	29	31.0%	6.9%	20.7%	44.8%	72.4%	3.7	9.5%	61.9%	8	8.0
Linguistics	33	27.3%	39.4%	63.6%	66.7%	84.8%	3.2	14.3%	78.6%	15	6.0
Music	14	21.4%	7.1%	14.3%	35.7%	57.1%	3.2	0.0%	62.5%	1	10.3
Philosophy	31	19.4%	16.1%	35.5%	58.1%	77.4%	3.5	4.2%	75.0%	15	8.0
Information and Computer Sciences	156	34.6%	34.0%	53.2%	62.2%	71.2%	2.7	9.0%	87.4%	50	6.0
Natural Sciences	739	26.0%	48.6%	66.8%	70.9%	77.5%	2.3	5.2%	91.4%	334	5.7
Animal Biotechnology and Biomedical Sciences	22	22.7%	59.1%	63.6%	77.3%	77.3%	3.8	0.0%	100.0%	8	6.2
Astronomy	14	28.6%	21.4%	42.9%	57.1%	78.6%	2.5	9.1%	72.7%	8	6.3
Chemistry	132	22.0%	62.1%	76.5%	76.5%	78.0%	2.3	1.9%	98.1%	54	6.0
Entomology	2	0.0%	50.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	2.2	0.0%	100.0%	.	.
Environmental Conservation*	32	31.3%	25.0%	43.8%	62.5%	65.6%	2.7	0.0%	95.2%	14	6.3
Food Science	30	26.7%	63.3%	70.0%	70.0%	73.3%	2.0	4.5%	95.5%	31	4.0
Geosciences	31	32.3%	45.2%	61.3%	61.3%	67.7%	1.5	0.0%	90.5%	12	5.5
Mathematics	56	41.1%	44.6%	55.4%	55.4%	64.3%	2.0	8.3%	86.1%	20	6.0
Microbiology	23	21.7%	43.5%	65.2%	73.9%	78.3%	2.3	0.0%	94.4%	8	5.8
Molecular and Cellular Biology	63	28.6%	42.9%	65.1%	69.8%	74.6%	1.7	2.1%	93.6%	30	6.0
Neuroscience and Behavior	24	33.3%	25.0%	58.3%	62.5%	70.8%	2.3	5.9%	88.2%	13	5.7
Organismic and Evolutionary Biology	34	20.6%	47.1%	70.6%	73.5%	85.3%	1.7	10.3%	86.2%	14	5.8
Physics	66	27.3%	19.7%	56.1%	68.2%	92.4%	1.4	19.7%	73.8%	32	6.5
Plant Biology	17	35.3%	41.2%	52.9%	64.7%	70.6%	1.9	8.3%	91.7%	6	5.8
Plant and Soil Sciences	24	25.0%	45.8%	62.5%	62.5%	75.0%	2.9	5.6%	83.3%	9	5.3
Polymer Science and Engineering	101	18.8%	68.3%	81.2%	81.2%	83.2%	4.7	2.4%	97.6%	47	5.3
Psychology	68	23.5%	51.5%	72.1%	75.0%	79.4%	2.9	3.7%	94.4%	28	6.0
Social and Behavioral Sciences	267	23.6%	18.7%	38.2%	52.4%	71.2%	3.1	2.6%	73.7%	95	7.7
Anthropology	48	37.5%	6.3%	10.4%	29.2%	39.6%	6.1	0.0%	73.7%	12	9.7
Communication	47	10.6%	23.4%	44.7%	63.8%	87.2%	2.7	0.0%	73.2%	22	7.7
Economics	55	5.5%	30.9%	61.8%	74.5%	94.5%	2.4	3.8%	78.8%	26	6.5
Political Science	53	47.2%	7.5%	30.2%	37.7%	52.8%	3.2	3.6%	71.4%	14	6.8
Regional Planning	10	0.0%	70.0%	90.0%	90.0%	100.0%	2.8	0.0%	90.0%	5	6.0
Resource Economics	7	42.9%	57.1%	57.1%	57.1%	71.4%	1.8	20.0%	80.0%	2	5.5
Sociology	47	19.1%	8.5%	27.7%	46.8%	74.5%	5.2	2.9%	62.9%	14	8.7
Education	292	28.4%	24.7%	39.7%	50.3%	62.3%	3.7	3.3%	80.8%	94	7.3

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Engineering	239	25.9%	50.6%	66.5%	70.3%	74.5%	3.5	3.4%	94.4%	118	5.3
Chemical Engineering	66	16.7%	77.3%	83.3%	83.3%	84.8%	3.6	1.8%	98.2%	26	5.3
Civil Engineering	27	18.5%	63.0%	70.4%	70.4%	88.9%	1.8	12.5%	79.2%	32	5.0
Electrical and Computer Engineering	79	19.0%	45.6%	68.4%	77.2%	78.5%	3.7	0.0%	98.4%	38	6.3
Mechanical and Industrial Engineering	67	46.3%	25.4%	46.3%	49.3%	53.7%	3.8	5.6%	91.7%	22	5.3
Isenberg School of Management	65	18.5%	60.0%	73.8%	76.9%	80.0%	2.7	0.0%	96.2%	43	4.7
Nursing	36	36.1%	22.2%	30.6%	50.0%	63.9%	3.3	4.3%	78.3%	16	7.5
Public Health and Health Sciences	91	29.7%	36.3%	49.5%	59.3%	64.8%	3.2	1.7%	91.5%	32	6.7
Biostatistics	8	50.0%	37.5%	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%	1.3	0.0%	100.0%	1	6.7
Communication Disorders	12	25.0%	41.7%	58.3%	58.3%	58.3%	2.6	0.0%	100.0%	1	13.3
Community Health Education	13	46.2%	7.7%	23.1%	30.8%	38.5%	4.3	0.0%	80.0%	1	8.0
Environmental Health Sciences	1	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	1.1	0.0%	100.0%	1	6.7
Epidemiology	13	23.1%	46.2%	53.8%	53.8%	61.5%	3.7	0.0%	87.5%	5	5.7
Health Policy Management	4	25.0%	0.0%	25.0%	75.0%	75.0%	5.5	0.0%	100.0%	4	8.5
Kinesiology	31	29.0%	45.2%	61.3%	67.7%	74.2%	2.9	4.3%	91.3%	11	6.3
Public Health Nutrition	9	11.1%	33.3%	33.3%	77.8%	88.9%	5.0	0.0%	87.5%	8	6.7
Campus Total	2,165	26.9%	35.8%	53.5%	62.2%	72.3%	2.9	4.5%	86.1%	897	6.0

Notes

Based on currently active doctoral programs with at least one student in the entering cohorts. (*Environmental Conservation includes students in Forest Resources and Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation.)

All statistics (except the median time to degree) are based on students entering in cohorts from 2005-06 through 2009-10.

% Withdrawn < 5 years: Percent of students who left without a degree or left with a Master's degree before completing 5 years.

Median Time to Degree: Median time to degree for students obtaining their doctoral degree from 2015-16 through 2017-18, based on elapsed time in terms of years. For example, students who start in September and complete their degree in May of their sixth year are displayed as 5.7 years (i.e. 5.7 years = 6 academic years).

% Withdrawn <3 years after Candidacy: Percent of students who left without a degree or left with a Master's degree before completing 3 years after advancing to candidacy.

Total % Completing after Candidacy: Percent of students who complete their degree after advancing to candidacy.