

Doctoral Student Persistence, Completion and Time to Degree

School/College and Program	Cohorts Entering 2010-11 through 2014-15									Degrees Awarded	
	Entering Students in Cohorts	% Withdrawn < 5 years	Cumulative Completion Rates			Advanced to Candidacy				2020-21 through 2022-23	
			≤ 6 years	≤ 8 years	Total	% Advanced to Candidacy	Median Time to Candidacy	% Withdrawn 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	248	23.0%	22.6%	41.1%	58.5%	76.2%	3.3	4.8%	76.7%	108	7.7
Afro-American Studies	25	16.0%	48.0%	60.0%	64.0%	88.0%	3.0	9.1%	72.7%	10	7.5
Comparative Literature	21	14.3%	19.0%	38.1%	71.4%	85.7%	3.1	5.6%	83.3%	14	9.0
English	68	26.5%	11.8%	27.9%	45.6%	67.6%	3.8	4.3%	67.4%	34	8.2
German and Scandinavian Studies	8	50.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	25.0%	4.6	0.0%	100.0%	2	9.5
Hispanic Literatures and Linguistics	33	27.3%	21.2%	33.3%	66.7%	78.8%	3.6	7.7%	84.6%	10	9.5
History (UMass/Five College)	25	8.0%	16.0%	48.0%	60.0%	96.0%	2.5	4.2%	62.5%	10	7.3
Linguistics	29	17.2%	55.2%	75.9%	82.8%	82.8%	3.4	0.0%	100.0%	16	6.0
Music	9	33.3%	11.1%	33.3%	55.6%	55.6%	4.6	0.0%	100.0%	4	13.2
Philosophy	30	30.0%	13.3%	40.0%	50.0%	73.3%	3.4	4.5%	68.2%	8	7.0
Information and Computer Sciences	140	37.1%	28.6%	51.4%	60.0%	70.7%	2.7	11.1%	84.8%	71	6.0
Natural Sciences	756	23.5%	48.4%	69.3%	72.8%	77.9%	2.6	4.2%	93.4%	298	6.0
Animal Biotechnology and Biomedical Sciences	16	25.0%	37.5%	75.0%	75.0%	75.0%	3.4	0.0%	100.0%	8	6.0
Astronomy	19	42.1%	21.1%	42.1%	57.9%	68.4%	2.5	15.4%	84.6%	5	7.3
Chemistry	123	26.0%	35.8%	72.4%	73.2%	76.4%	2.7	4.3%	95.7%	49	5.7
Entomology	1	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	2.6	0.0%	100.0%	.	.
Environmental Conservation*	44	18.2%	40.9%	50.0%	63.6%	75.0%	3.0	6.1%	84.8%	20	6.0
Food Science	57	8.8%	78.9%	87.7%	89.5%	93.0%	2.7	1.9%	96.2%	24	5.2
Geosciences	31	32.3%	48.4%	58.1%	61.3%	61.3%	2.4	0.0%	100.0%	16	5.8
Mathematics	54	24.1%	40.7%	61.1%	70.4%	74.1%	2.3	2.5%	95.0%	19	6.7
Microbiology	27	40.7%	44.4%	55.6%	59.3%	59.3%	1.9	0.0%	100.0%	6	6.3
Molecular and Cellular Biology	65	23.1%	40.0%	75.4%	75.4%	80.0%	1.7	3.8%	94.2%	28	6.0
Neuroscience and Behavior	26	23.1%	46.2%	73.1%	73.1%	88.5%	2.5	13.0%	82.6%	12	6.0
Organismic and Evolutionary Biology	32	12.5%	59.4%	75.0%	78.1%	90.6%	1.6	3.4%	86.2%	16	5.5
Physics	63	30.2%	27.0%	52.4%	60.3%	74.6%	1.6	12.8%	80.9%	24	6.5
Plant Biology	29	44.8%	34.5%	51.7%	51.7%	58.6%	2.0	11.8%	88.2%	8	6.0
Plant and Soil Sciences	14	14.3%	64.3%	78.6%	78.6%	85.7%	3.5	0.0%	91.7%	.	.
Polymer Science and Engineering	99	14.1%	78.8%	85.9%	85.9%	86.9%	4.5	1.2%	98.8%	36	5.3
Psychology	56	25.0%	50.0%	71.4%	75.0%	75.0%	3.2	0.0%	100.0%	26	6.0
Social and Behavioral Sciences	249	17.7%	23.3%	42.2%	62.2%	79.5%	3.4	4.5%	78.3%	122	7.7
Anthropology	40	30.0%	5.0%	25.0%	52.5%	67.5%	5.3	0.0%	77.8%	19	8.0
Communication	36	8.3%	22.2%	47.2%	75.0%	91.7%	2.7	3.0%	81.8%	22	6.5
Economics	57	8.8%	33.3%	59.6%	71.9%	91.2%	2.4	1.9%	78.8%	33	7.0
Political Science	52	32.7%	17.3%	26.9%	44.2%	67.3%	3.6	14.3%	65.7%	16	7.2
Regional Planning	11	27.3%	63.6%	63.6%	63.6%	72.7%	3.4	0.0%	87.5%	2	5.3
Resource Economics	11	9.1%	63.6%	81.8%	90.9%	90.9%	2.1	0.0%	100.0%	6	5.2
Sociology	42	7.1%	14.3%	33.3%	61.9%	78.6%	4.9	6.1%	78.8%	24	9.3
Education	253	22.9%	27.3%	43.5%	54.2%	68.4%	3.3	3.5%	79.2%	88	6.7

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Engineering	297	24.9%	48.5%	61.6%	65.3%	73.7%	3.0	2.7%	88.6%	119	5.3
Chemical Engineering	65	24.6%	66.2%	72.3%	72.3%	72.3%	4.0	0.0%	100.0%	31	5.7
Civil Engineering	68	17.6%	64.7%	73.5%	76.5%	89.7%	1.8	8.2%	85.2%	28	5.0
Electrical and Computer Engineering	82	17.1%	25.6%	56.1%	63.4%	79.3%	4.0	1.5%	80.0%	29	6.3
Mechanical and Industrial Engineering	82	39.0%	43.9%	48.8%	52.4%	56.1%	3.0	0.0%	93.5%	28	5.3
Isenberg School of Management	77	18.2%	71.4%	76.6%	77.9%	81.8%	2.4	0.0%	95.2%	28	4.7
Nursing	42	23.8%	28.6%	57.1%	64.3%	76.2%	2.5	9.4%	84.4%	20	6.7
Public Health and Health Sciences	79	22.8%	32.9%	62.0%	68.4%	72.2%	3.0	0.0%	94.7%	46	5.0
Biostatistics	10	20.0%	10.0%	50.0%	70.0%	80.0%	3.5	0.0%	87.5%	14	4.3
Community Health Education	8	50.0%	0.0%	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%	6.4	0.0%	100.0%	2	8.0
Environmental Health Sciences	2	50.0%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%	5.4	0.0%	100.0%	4	4.5
Epidemiology	16	37.5%	37.5%	56.3%	56.3%	62.5%	2.8	0.0%	90.0%	10	5.2
Health Policy Management	4	0.0%	50.0%	75.0%	75.0%	75.0%	2.4	0.0%	100.0%	.	.
Kinesiology	26	15.4%	53.8%	80.8%	84.6%	84.6%	2.6	0.0%	100.0%	7	6.0
Public Health Nutrition	11	0.0%	27.3%	81.8%	90.9%	100.0%	3.3	0.0%	90.9%	7	5.0
Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences	2	50.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	2.4	0.0%	100.0%	2	8.0
Campus Total	2,141	23.6%	38.6%	57.4%	65.7%	75.6%	2.9	4.3%	86.8%	900	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 2010-11 through 2014-15.

% **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 2020-21 through 2022-23, 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.