



Doctoral Program Milestones

The purpose of this form is to keep an official record of the milestones achieved by a Doctoral student in the Department of Mathematical Sciences. This form is to be completed and submitted to the Graduate Coordinator and ma-admins@wpi.edu after each milestone is reached. For further details about program policies, students and advisors should refer to the relevant Ph.D. booklet.

Student Information

<i>Last name</i>	<i>First name</i>	<i>Middle initial</i>	<i>Student ID number</i>
<i>Local address + city + state + zip</i>		<i>WPI email</i>	<i>Home phone number</i>
<i>Ph.D. program:</i> ☐ <i>Mathematical Sciences</i> ☐ <i>Statistics</i>		<i>Program credits:</i> ☐ 60 ☐ 90	
<i>Program start date: semester/yyyy</i>			

Plan of Study

The Plan of Study form (available under Resources on the Department of Mathematical Sciences website) is to be completed and submitted to the Graduate Program Committee chair(s) for approval before the end of the first semester of study.

The original plan of study form was approved by the Graduate Program Committee on:

Approval date: mm/dd/yyyy

General Comprehensive Examination

The General Comprehensive Examination (GCE) consists of two three-hour exams. Students must pass both exams by the end of January of their second year, if they entered the program in the fall, or by the end of May of their second year, if they entered in the spring. For the Ph.D. in mathematical Sciences one exam is on linear algebra, based on MA 502, and the other is on real analysis, based on MA 503. For the Ph.D. in Statistics, one exam is on probability, based on MA 540, and the other is on mathematical statistics, based on MA 541.

Exam 1

☐ *Linear Algebra (based on MA 502)* ☐ *Probability (based on MA 540)*

Exam pass date: mm/dd/yyyy

GCE committee chair name

GCE committee chair signature

Exam 2

☐ *Real Analysis (based on MA 503)* ☐ *Mathematical Statistics (based on MA 541)*

Exam pass date: mm/dd/yyyy

GCE committee chair name

GCE committee chair signature

Preliminary Examination

The Preliminary Examination is given in two parts, a written part followed by an oral part, and covers subject matter in three areas determined by the student's preliminary examination committee. A student must make the first attempt by the end of their third year (sixth year if part-time) in the Ph.D. program. A student who fails will be allowed to take the examination a second time within one year of the first attempt.

Preliminary Examination Committee

		☐ Chair ☐ Advisor
Committee member name	Preliminary exam topic	
		☐ Chair ☐ Advisor
Committee member name	Preliminary exam topic	
		☐ Chair ☐ Advisor
Committee member name	Preliminary exam topic	
		☐ Chair ☐ Advisor
Optional committee member name	Preliminary exam topic	

Written Exam

		☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Conditional (add comments to designated box)
Exam date: mm/dd/yyyy		

Oral Exam

		☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Conditional (add comments to designated box)
Exam date: mm/dd/yyyy		

Comments

Preliminary Exam Retake

Written Exam Retake	☐ Pass ☐ Fail
Exam date: mm/dd/yyyy	
Oral Exam Retake	☐ Pass ☐ Fail
Exam date: mm/dd/yyyy	

Dissertation Committee

A student's dissertation advisor chairs the dissertation committee. The committee must have at least five members and should be made up of members of the Mathematical Sciences faculty and at least one member external to the department who is a recognized expert in the area of the student's dissertation. Ph.D. students must provide a brief justification or a readily accessible list of publications for any external committee member. The dissertation committee must be approved by the Graduate Program Committee three weeks prior to the public seminar on the dissertation proposal. This committee will participate in the dissertation proposal and the oral defense.

☐ *Advisor* ☐ *External*

Committee member name

☐ *Advisor* ☐ *External*

Committee member name

☐ *Advisor* ☐ *External*

Committee member name

☐ *Advisor* ☐ *External*

Committee member name

☐ *Advisor* ☐ *External*

Committee member name

☐ *External*

Optional committee member name

Dissertation Proposal

At least four months prior to completion of the dissertation defense, a student must present a formal public seminar describing their proposed dissertation research plan. A formal written dissertation proposal summarizing the proposed research plan must be submitted to the approved dissertation committee at least two weeks before this presentation date. The proposal must be approved by the dissertation committee.

☐ *Pass* ☐ *Fail*

Public presentation date: mm/dd/yyyy

Dissertation committee chair name

Dissertation committee chair signature

Dissertation Defense

The final examination is a public oral dissertation defense, the purpose of which is to present the dissertation to the dissertation committee and to the general community. A student must register a request to schedule the oral defense with the Department of Mathematical Sciences at least one month before the proposed date and must provide copies of the dissertation to each member of the dissertation committee at least one month prior to the oral defense.

☐ *Pass* ☐ *Fail*

Public presentation date: mm/dd/yyyy

Dissertation committee chair name

Dissertation committee chair signature