

Sample 6-year plan for students who wish to combine the MA and PhD degree programs, with the option of an integrated CFY

Overview:

This suggested course sequence guidance for combined MA/PhD is a department-internal procedure designed to maximize program benefits and efficiency – the degree requirements are not changed for either the MA or the PhD Program; with the exception of the MA thesis, which can be overlapped with pre-candidacy research for the Ph.D., no classes apply to both degrees in terms of credit accumulation.

This is fastest schedule possible; it is not required that students finish in this timeline. Rather, this is intended to serve as a starting point for discussion between a student and their Program Planning Committee for the purposes of advising. It is one possible plan, but is not expected to be appropriate for all doctoral students.

Students MUST officially obtain the MA degree (prior to beginning their CFY) in order to meet ASHA requirements for certification. Having completed the work without the official degree (equivalency) does not suffice.

The sequence below presumes satisfaction of undergraduate pre-requisite classes, which may add between 1-2 semesters to this plan, depending upon applicable prior coursework, and potential for interleaving a small number of such courses into the plan below.

Students can opt to do their CFY after completion of their doctoral work, or to integrate their CFY with their doctoral program on a part-time basis. The sample plan below includes the option of an integrated CFY, but students should be aware that spending 50% of their time on a CFY will likely slow their progress towards their dissertation.

Semester	M.A	Ph.D
Fall year 1	Two-Three MA classes (e.g., HESP 610: Language Disorders in Adults, HESP 616: Child Language)	One PhD course, This likely will not be statistics, as seats are limited for first semester students doing regular registrations, but might include: HESP 808 (seminar or similar) + lab hours (889)
Winter Year 1, 2 or 3	Optional M.A. electives	
Spring year 1	HESP620, HESP602	Statistics course, Research Design (HESP 724), lab hours (889)
Summer year 1	HESP625 or HESP627 or HESP635	Independent study or minimum 1-credit lab registration. Possible additional statistics course if available
Fall year 2	Classes not covered in Fall year 1: HESP702, HESP613, or HESP624,	PhD elective, or independent study

	enroll in clinic (HESP648)	
Spring Year 2	HESP611, MA elective, clinic (HESP648), HESP799	Pre-candidacy research proposal
Summer Year 2	Complete summer MA courses, clinic (<i>third semester of clinic can be either this summer, or subsequent fall</i>)	Pre-candidacy research
Fall year 3	Complete MA Fall courses, clinic (HESP648)	Ph.D courses, including 4th statistics course
Spring year 3	Outside placement (HESP728), complete any MA electives, MA thesis	Continue research
Summer year 3		By end of year 3, defend pre- candidacy research
Fall & Spring year 4	Complete 2 nd Outside placement	Prepare for Comprehensive exam, Doctoral coursework/research
Fall year 5	Possibly begin half-time (20 hrs) CFY ¹	Comprehensive exam
Spring year 5	Possibly continue half-time CFY	Defend prepare and defend dissertation proposal
Summer year 5	Possibly continue half-time CFY	Dissertation research
Fall year 6	Complete half-time CFY if applicable (may require work until Jan-Feb)	Dissertation research
Spring year 6		Defend dissertation

Note: While MA coursework is likely to all be within the department, doctoral coursework is likely to include courses from related departments; decisions on appropriate courses should be made in consultation with the student's Program Planning Committee (PPC).

¹ A 20 hr/wk CFY requires 18 months of work; adjust schedules for other CFY plans accordingly. Alternatively, CFY can be completed in 1 year following completion of the doctoral program; this allows students to graduate with their Ph.D. in the shortest possible amount of time.