

# Benchmark Timeline for PhD in Canadian Studies

Dates indicated are for full-time students who began in September 2025

<b>Program Component</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Finish Date</b>	
<b>Course Work</b>	8 months	1-Sep-25	30-Apr-26	YEAR 1
CAST 6000	8 months	1-Sep-25	30-Apr-26	
0.5 elective	4 months	1-Sep-25	30-Dec-25	
0.5 elective	4 months	1-Jan-26	30-Apr-26	
PhD Guidelines Section II				
<b>Comprehensive #1</b>	8 months	1-May-26	31-Dec-26	YEAR 2
Form Comp Committee	2 months	1-May-26	30-Jun-26	
Compile Reading List	2 months	1-May-26	30-Jun-26	
Preparation	5 months	1-Jul-26	30-Nov-26	
Written Exam		1-Dec-26	15-Dec-26	
Oral Exam		16-Dec-26	31-Dec-26	
PhD Guidelines Section III				
<b>Comprehensive #2</b>	8 months	1-Jan-27	30-Aug-27	YEAR 3
Form Comp Committee	2 months	1-Jan-27	28-Feb-27	
Compile Reading List	2 months	1-Jan-27	28-Feb-27	
Preparation	5 months	1-Mar-27	31-Jul-27	
Written Exam		1-Aug-27	15-Aug-27	
Oral Exam		16-Aug-27	30-Aug-27	
PhD Guidelines Section III				
<b>Dissertation</b>	24 months	1-Sep-27	31-Aug-29	YEAR 4
Form Dissertation Committee	3 months	1-Sep-27	30-Nov-27	
Dissertation Proposal Defence	3 months	1-Sep-27	30-Nov-27	
Dissertation Writing	19 months	1-Dec-27	30-Jun-29	
Dissertation Scheduling	6-8 weeks	1-Jul-29	15-Aug-29	
Dissertation Oral Defence		16-Aug-29	31-Aug-29	
PhD Guidelines Sections IV, V, VI				

updated 30-May-25