

Required Milestones for PhD candidature

Activity	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Draft Research Plan (10 pages)	< 3 months		
Meet regularly with all supervisors	✓	✓	✓
Attend Departmental seminars	✓	✓	✓
Attend Keast Lecture/ Warrah weekend	✓	✓	✓
Apply for PRSS scheme	maybe	April	April
Audit of equipment and travel needs	< 3 months		
Apply for permits, ethics	6-9 months		
OHS, first aid, 4WD, diving courses	✓		
Pilot experiments, techniques	3-5 months		
Apply for grants	✓	✓	✓
Short talk to lab group	✓	✓	✓
Research Plan Feedback (2 experts)	4 months		
Final Research Plan (10 pages)	End 1 st semester		
Research Showcase – introductory seminar (15 min)	Study week June 1 st semester		
6-month interview with PGSC	6 months		
Write methods, chapters, papers	✓	✓	✓
Faculty Annual Progress Report	November	24 months	36 months
First year PGSC interview	✓		
Proposal for upgrade to PhD (if needed)	✓		
Poster presentation in Research Showcase		Study week June 1 st semester	
Second year PGSC interview		24 months	
Conference talk		✓	✓
Draft manuscript for publication		✓	✓
Final thesis plan with timetable for chapter completion			✓
Final School exit seminar (45 min)			✓
Discuss examiners with supervisors			✓
Notify Faculty of intention to graduate			3 months prior
Third year PGSC interview			36 months
Complete thesis chapters and submit by end of 6 semesters			✓
Network and develop career plans	✓	✓	Apply for Postdocs
Celebrate			✓
Complete thesis emendations if needed			✓

Requirements for satisfactory progress of PhD candidature in the School of Biological Sciences

First semester

Completed ten-page Research Plan.

Received one-page written feedback on research plan from two experts familiar with the area of research

Completed reading for conceptual background of project and review of literature

Presented introductory seminar in Research Showcase

Attended majority of departmental seminars

Satisfactory progress reported at 6-month interview

*PGSC will give feedback on likelihood of meeting probation requirements at end of first year

Candidates not meeting the PhD requirements will be recommended to complete an MSc or termination of candidature as appropriate.

Second semester

Data collection well under way

Materials and resources available,

All techniques, and methods tested

Feasible timetable for completion of PhD by 3 years

Completed Faculty Annual Progress Report

Satisfactory progress reported at Annual interview with PGSC

* PGSC will sign off on probation and satisfactory progress only if research plan and introductory seminar are completed.

Second year

Results should be progressing well by the end of the second year

Revise timetable and scope of work to ensure timely completion

Research results presented as a poster at the Postgraduate Research Showcase (Study week June)

Completed Faculty Annual Progress Report

Satisfactory progress reported at Annual interview with PGSC

*PGSC will sign off on satisfactory progress only if research poster presentation is completed and there is satisfactory progress documented in the Annual Progress Report.

Third year

Completed data collection and analysis

Chapter/paper writing well underway

Completed final exit seminar (45 min talk in Departmental seminar series)

If there is a need and justification for a one semester extension (to 3.5 years) this needs to be discussed with and agreed to by the supervisors well before the annual progress reports are due.

*PGSC will sign off on satisfactory progress only if substantial progress is documented in the Annual Progress Report and there is a realistic plan for completion by the end of the sixth semester.

Opportunities for funding and awards based on outstanding progress:

Postgraduate Research Support Scheme (PRSS)

Faculty of Science Grants-in-Aid

Postgraduate Excellence Prize – competition run within the School of Biological Science

Faculty of Science postgraduate research prizes for outstanding academic achievement