

Change to [Policies Governing Doctoral Degree Programs](#)

Current policy (*area of interest highlighted*)

General Requirements

The doctor of philosophy degree is granted primarily for creative attainments. There is no rigid credit requirement; however, the equivalent of at least three years of full-time graduate work beyond the bachelor's degree (at least 108 graduate credits) is required. Effective fall 2005, all graduate student programs of study submitted to the Graduate School must consist of, at a minimum, 50 percent graduate stand-alone courses. The remaining credits may be the 500 component of 400/500 slash courses. After admission into the doctoral program, a minimum of one full-time academic year (at least 36 graduate credits) should be devoted to the preparation of the thesis. **The equivalent of one full-time academic year of regular non-blanket course work (at least 36 graduate credits) must be included on a doctoral program.**

Recommendation:

The Graduate Council is recommending that the requirements for didactic credit be changed to a minimum of 27 credits.

Full-time status is defined in current policies as a minimum of [9 credits per term](#). The equivalent of one full-time academic year is a minimum of 9 credits per term, or 27 credits for the year.

Proposed Revised policy:

The equivalent of one full-time academic year of regular non-blanket course work (at least ~~36~~ **27** graduate credits) must be included on a doctoral program.