

**Schedule for Completion of PhD Degree
Tips/Template for a Successful Career**

| YEAR | FALL | WINTER | SPRING | SUMMER |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| 1 GSR S 5 | <p>ASTR 205 ASTR 204 or 220A ASTR 292 Colloquium</p> <p>Quarterly Advising Meeting</p> | <p>ASTR 202 or 212 ASTR Elective ASTR 292 Colloquium</p> <p>Quarterly Advising Meeting</p> | <p>ASTR 230 or 233 ASTR Elective ASTR 292 Colloquium</p> <p>Quarterly Advising Meeting</p> | <p>1st Yr Project - intensive work & weekly meetings with research supervisor.</p> <p>Line up second year support.</p> <p>Take Prelim Exam - first try (Faculty review of 1st year students)</p> |
| <p>Arrange and get started on Research Project by the end of Fall Quarter Line up research supervisor and GSR support for first summer and second year TA requirements - minimum 1 quarter Start on web page - update important information about research</p> | | | | |
| 2 GSR S 5 | <p>ASTR 204 or 212 ASTR Elective</p> <p>Quarterly Advising Meeting</p> | <p>ASTR 202 or 220A ASTR Elective</p> <p>Quarterly Advising Meeting</p> | <p>ASTR 230 or 233 *ASTR 297 Indep Study</p> <p>Quarterly Advising Meeting</p> <p>By end of Spring Qtr -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Courses 11 (7 core & 4 elect) Indep Study & Dept Talk Research Paper | <p>Take Prelim Exam - final try</p> <p>Board Review</p> <p>After Board Review, focus full time on developing your thesis topic.</p> <p>Aim for 2nd paper in Winter Quarter of 3rd year.</p> <p>Possible conference/poster paper this summer.</p> <p>Apply for M.S. Degree?</p> |
| <p>ASTR 297 Independent Study at least one quarter can be interchanged with an elective during any quarter (does not have to occur in Spring Quarter) UCO/Lick Computer network - GSR triggers this access International Students - try hard to take the QE spring or summer quarter; if passed, tuition is reduced</p> | | | | |
| 3 GSR S 5 | <p>ASTR 297 10 units</p> <p>Quarterly Advising Meeting</p> | <p>ASTR 297 10 units</p> <p>Quarterly Advising Meeting</p> <p>Submit 2nd paper to journal, this is also preferably a chapter of your thesis.</p> | <p>ASTR 297 10 units</p> <p>Quarterly Advising Meeting</p> <p>Qualifying Exam (Department Requirement) (advance to GSR Step 6 effective the quarter after QE is completed) Outside member should be one of your letter writers.</p> | <p>Attend conference, give talk/poster paper.</p> |
| 4 GSR S 6 | <p>**ASTR 299 5 or 10 units</p> <p>Quarterly Advising Meeting</p> <p>Submit 3rd paper to journal, chapter of thesis.</p> <p>For fast track students, apply for jobs, travel to depts to give job colloquia.</p> | <p>ASTR 299 5 or 10 units</p> <p>Quarterly Advising Meeting</p> | <p>ASTR 299 5 or 10 units</p> <p>Quarterly Advising Meeting</p> <p>Qualifying Exam (UCSC Graduate Division Requirement Deadline)</p> | <p>Attending conferences is a must for all students applying for jobs in fall.</p> |
| <p>**ASTR 299 replaces ASTR 297 once you have passed your Qualifying Exam Everyone: angle for talk invitations at other departments & conferences Apply to conferences for travel funds</p> | | | | |
| 5 GSR S 7 | <p>ASTR 299 5 or 10 units</p> <p>Submit 4th paper to journal, second chapter of thesis.</p> <p>Apply for jobs.</p> <p>Travel to departments to give job colloquia.</p> | <p>ASTR 299 5 or 10 units</p> | <p>•Thesis Defense</p> <p>ASTR 299 5 or 10 units if GSR or Filing Fee Status by 2nd week of quarter</p> | |
| 6 GSR S 7 | <p>The Department has established five years as the normative time to degree. Normative time is the elapsed calendar time in years that under normal circumstances will be needed to complete all requirements for the Ph.D.</p> <p>A one year extension may be granted if funding is available.</p> | | | |

**FORMAL REQUIREMENT / MILESTONE
SUGGESTED**

Notes:

~ASTR 205 offered Fall Quarter only - all 1st year students must take Fall Qtr of entering program
~ASTR 202, 204A, 204B, 220A, 240A are Core Courses, offered in alternate years, follow a 3 Qtr sequence
~Must be enrolled in at least 10 units each quarter until ATC - then 5 or 10 units.

~ASTR 292 - Seminar Course, weekly Astronomy Colloquium, no credit
~ASTR 297 - Independent Study, prior to ATC (Advance to Candidacy)
~ASTR 299 - Thesis Research