

Criteria for Satisfactory Progress

- **Prerequisite** : Completion of the M.A. in French.
- **GPA** : Minimum of a 3.0 grade point average.
- **Course Load** : Minimum each semester of 9 credits (3 courses or seminars) until dissertator status is reached. The same rules for auditing courses described above apply to the Ph.D. program.

Timely completion of Ph.D. requirements :

- **Preliminary Examinations**: The field exam is to be taken preferably two semesters, and definitely no later than four semesters, after completion of the M.A. The dissertation proposal oral exam is to be taken within nine months of the successful completion of the field exam.
- **Foreign Language Requirement**: Candidates must complete their foreign language reading requirement before being granted dissertator status.
- **Ph.D. Minor**: Candidates must complete the Ph.D. minor requirement before being granted dissertator status.
- **Dissertation Defense or Final Oral Examination**: Graduate School regulations require Ph.D. candidates to defend their dissertation “five years from the date of passing their preliminary examinations” (*Graduate Student Handbook*).