NORMAL PROGRESS

The physics department expects all graduate students to complete 15 credit hours each academic semester and maintain a 3.0 average in PhD core courses, until their core requirement is satisfied. (Note that the Graduate School requires a 3.0 average in all graded courses, and separately in all regular classroom courses.) Students entering with a bachelor’s degree are expected to complete at least two PhD core courses each semester of the first year and to complete their MS degree during the second year. Those continuing for the PhD are expected to have an official research advisor by the end of the second year. Students entering with a master’s degree are expected to complete any needed core coursework during their first year and to have an official PhD research advisor by the end of that year. Students who do not meet these requirements or do not have “Good Standing” with the Graduate School for one or more semesters may be subject to dismissal by the department. Normal progress toward a degree is also a major factor in the allocation of departmental financial support.