PhD Checklist

From First Year to ABD

- Initial consultation with first-year advisor
- Coursework
  - 2 methods courses (including 593)
  - 4 courses in major field (including research seminars)
  - 2 courses each in minor fields
  - 2-3 research seminars (including 594)
  - 16 courses in all (for BA); 10 for those with MA
- Select major advisor (recommended by end of first year)
- First and Second Year Reviews – May
  - Meet with DGS and advisor (first year)
  - Meet with DGS and advisor (second year)
- File PhD Portfolio Review Sept. 15 or Feb. 15
  (MAs submit within 4 semesters; BAs submit within 6 semesters)
- Meet Language competency
  (US-1 language, non-US-2 languages by coursework or exam; prior to last written Prelim exam)
- Master of Arts degree: Only for first MA in History
  (optional after completing 32 hours within 5 years of first registration)
  See [http://www.history.illinois.edu/graduate/prospective/requirements/](http://www.history.illinois.edu/graduate/prospective/requirements/)
- Submit Prelim Planning Form by Dec. 1 or May 1 of semester before exams begin
- Departmental Written Preliminary Exams (3 exams)
  Major and 2 minors, in two consecutive exam periods
  Grad College Oral Preliminary Exam- (MUST BE REGISTERED-submit DRAFT of Request for Appointment of Preliminary/Doctoral Examination Committee to Graduate Secretary three weeks prior to event)

From ABD to PhD

- Form dissertation committee in consultation with advisor & submit form
- One year past prelims, written report to advisor on progress, to be forwarded to DGS. List provisional dissertation committee, if formed
- Dissertation Pre-Defense (3-6 months before final defense)
- Graduate College Dissertation Defense – (MUST BE REGISTERED-submit DRAFT of Request for Appointment of Preliminary/Doctoral Examination Committee to Graduate Secretary three weeks prior to event)
- Apply for Degree online (via web UI Integrate Self-Service)
- Deposit Dissertation