Doctoral Program Policies and Requirements

Doctoral Program Credit Requirements
The minimum number of credit hours to satisfy the doctoral program requirements are set for each individual program. The maximum number of credit hours taken at another institution that may count as transfer credit hours toward the doctoral program are also set by the individual doctoral programs.

Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Requirements
Dissertation students must submit the dissertation in electronic format. The policies, procedures, and submission links for this are presented in detail on the College of Graduate Studies website for The Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (http://academics.georgiasouthern.edu/etd).

Following a successful dissertation defense, the candidate must make any corrections or changes to the dissertation that are required by the defense committee. The student must submit the dissertation as an electronic file (ETD) required by the College of Graduate Studies for format check by the format check deadline. After the document format has been completed, the electronic document is returned to the student. If format corrections are to be made, the student must make the changes and submit the final corrected electronic version to the College of Graduate Studies by the final submission deadline as posted for the semester. The student should check with his/her dissertation chair to determine if the dissertation committee chooses to re-review the document before final submission to the College of Graduate Studies. The final copy must also conform to the stylistic guidelines adopted by the academic unit established by the College of Graduate Studies.

Exclusion - Doctoral Students
A doctoral student will be denied continued enrollment at Georgia Southern University for any of the following reasons:

1. failure to meet the conditions of academic probation;
2. failure to meet specified academic requirements as set by the program and/or department; and/or
3. failure to comply with the Academic Dishonesty section of the Student Conduct Code.

Grade Requirements - Doctoral Programs
To be awarded a doctoral degree, the candidate must not be on academic probation and must meet the minimum GPA requirement for the degree program.

The minimum cumulative graduate GPA to remain in good standing is set by the respective doctoral program. Doctoral students should check their program student handbook or consult with their advisor or program director about the minimum GPA requirement for their program.

A student may not repeat any course for credit for which he/she has already received a grade of "C" or better unless specifically permitted by the degree program department policy.

Practicum Requirement
Some doctoral programs may have a practicum requirement. Doctoral students should consult with their respective department/college regarding practicum requirements.

Restricted Courses
While courses numbered 6000 and above are offered for graduate credit hour, courses numbered 9000 and above are open to doctoral degree students only. Courses numbered 5000G to 5999G may be taken for graduate credit but may not be counted toward doctoral degree requirements, unless specifically prescribed as a requirement for the doctoral curriculum. Because this varies by program, please refer to the program requirements for more information.