Doctoral Degree Policies

Degrees Offered
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)
Doctor of Education (Ed.D.)
Doctor of Musical Arts (D.M.A.)
Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.)

Didactic Credit-Based Doctoral Degrees
In didactic-credit based doctoral programs, students gain knowledge through coursework of which the majority are didactic. Didactic courses are numbered 601-689, 691; 700-789, 791; 800-889 and 891.

Outcomes-Based Doctoral Degrees
Students in outcomes-based doctoral programs must meet Graduate Council and program specific outcomes through credit-based academic activity. There are no didactic credit requirements for these programs, though 90 credits post-baccalaureate degree must be earned.

Residence Requirements
Graduate study for the Doctor of Philosophy degree normally requires a minimum of three (3) years of full-time study beyond the baccalaureate degree. A student who has a master’s degree or equivalent must devote at least one of the two remaining academic years of study in residence at North Dakota State University.