

MEDIA, TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY PHD

Degree Requirements

The following requirements are in addition to, or further elaborate upon, those requirements outlined in The Graduate School Policy Guide (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/tgs/academic-policies-procedures/>).

Master's

Students who enter without a suitable master's degree are admitted as MA/PhD students. Students admitted to the MA/PhD program complete their MA as part of their preparation for the doctorate. Students will be required to complete nine courses. Additionally, candidates shall be required to prepare a conference-quality paper under the supervision of a three person committee during the fall quarter of their second year of coursework. This paper serves as the final comprehensive examination. Students are encouraged to use the first summer following coursework to begin preparation of this paper.

PhD

Two years (six quarters) of full-time coursework beyond MA degree is required. All doctoral students are required to take two courses:

1. a proseminar (MTS 501-0 Introduction to Grad Research in MTS), in which students are introduced to a variety of interests within MTS; and
2. a second-year practicum course focused on learning how to write a publishable-quality, empirical social-scientific research paper (MTS 503-0 The Practice of Scholarship).

Not including these required courses, students must take at least four letter-graded courses offered by MTS faculty at the 400 or 500 level. Students are also required to develop methodological expertise appropriate to their interests as specified by their committee.

Other PhD Degree Requirements

- **Examinations:** upon completion of coursework, written and oral comprehensive examination
- **Research/Projects:** present a research paper or grant proposal by the end of the second year of coursework
- **PhD Dissertation:** based on original, independent research
- **Final Evaluations:** oral defense of dissertation