Phonology PhD Course of Study

1 Coursework
During year one or as soon as possible, students interested in theoretical or descriptive phonology should take:

- LING 552 (Phonology II). Most students will have satisfied the prerequisites (LING 550, 551) before entering the program, but if not, those courses should be taken in the first year. LING 552 is always offered in Spring.
- LING 581 (Morphology), even if you took a morphology class as undergraduate
- Any and all seminars (LING 580) with phonology content. Take these whenever they are offered, not just in your first year.
- LING 553 (Experimental Phonetics)

By the end of your second year you should also have taken the following required courses:

- LING 507 (Syntactic Theory I)
- LING 532 (Sociolinguistics I)
- LING 541 or 542 (Language Processing and Development)
- LING 579 (Semantic Theory II)

Also useful to phonologists are:

- Field methods (LING 580), to obtain data to analyze and write about
- LING 510 (Historical linguistics)
- LING 533 (Sociolinguistics II)
- LING 580 (phonetics, sociolinguistics seminars)
- LING 520 (Statistics for linguists) (more advanced courses like EDPSY 593 may be beneficial too)

2 Expected timeline
By the end of your second year, you should have:

- selected an advisor and formed a committee
- be working on your first generals paper (enroll in LING 600 or 800 for variable credits with the primary supervisor of that paper)
- be thinking about your second generals paper

By the end of your third year, you should have:

- finished writing your two generals papers
- taken or at least scheduled your General Exam

During years four and five:

- present a dissertation prospectus to your PhD committee (sometimes there is time for this at the General Exam)
- assemble the data for your dissertation
- write your dissertation. Usually one chapter at a time is submitted to and approved by a student’s committee.
- defend and file your dissertation