

**College of Graduate Studies  
Medical University of South Carolina**

**PROGRAM OF STUDY  
Ph.D.**

To: College of Graduate Studies

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
Departmental Graduate Coordinator

Department of: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Attached is the Program of Study for \* \_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name

This Program has the approval of the student's Major Advisor and the Departmental Graduate Coordinator.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Major Advisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Departmental Graduate Coordinator

**\*Attach an official or unofficial MUSC transcript to show the Program of Study**

*Degree Requirements: The College of Graduate Studies does not require a specific number of course credits for the Ph.D. degree. Ph.D. students participating in the common core curriculum are required to take 12 didactic hours beyond the first year. Most students will have taken 75 hours of course credit (including research hours) before taking the qualifying exams.*

*Program of Study - PhD: After the first year, the Program of Study is planned in a joint meeting of the student and his/her Dissertation Advisor. The Program of Study is a list of courses and other requirements, including those of the major department, which the student must complete in order to meet the minimum program requirements of a given degree. It lists courses that are being transferred as well as courses that are to be taken on campus. After approval by the Dissertation Advisor, the approved Program of Study is filed with the departmental graduate coordinator and with the office of the Dean within three months after the Dissertation Advisor is chosen. A decision to remove, substitute, or add courses to the Program of Study can be made in a joint meeting of the student and the Dissertation Advisor. Any changes in the program must be completed no later than one week after the substituted or additional course has begun. A record of any change in the program will be submitted by the Dissertation Advisor to the office of the Dean. In addition, it will be the final responsibility of the student and his/her Dissertation Advisor to ensure that any change in the Program of Study is consistent with the maintenance of at least the minimum course requirements of the major department.*

*The Dissertation Advisor, in consultation with the student, will prescribe additional course work needed to complete the departmental requirements for graduation and other course work or areas of study needed to remedy deficiencies in the student's background to ensure successful completion of the proposed dissertation. The Program of Study form must be completed before scheduling the qualifying examinations.*