ACADEMIC POLICIES

Much of the material contained in this section gives details pertaining to School-wide [Krieger School of Arts and Sciences (KSAS) and/or Whiting School of Engineering (WSE)] or University-wide policies. However, there are graduate student issues and policies that are department specific. In those instances, students are referred directly to their department administrator or department handbook for further information.

A Note about PhD Education:

Ph.D. education is fundamental to the University’s teaching and research mission. For an intellectual community of scholars to flourish, it is important to acknowledge the principles that underlie the compact between Ph.D. students, the faculty, and other members of the University community.

It is in this spirit that the Doctor of Philosophy Board, in collaboration with faculty and students from across the University, has articulated a statement of rights and responsibilities for doctoral students at Johns Hopkins. The principles described in this document are to be realized in policies established by the various Schools of the University; the Schools will also develop mechanisms to monitor and enforce such policies. For more information see the Statement of the Rights and Responsibilities of PhD Students (http://web.jhu.edu/administration/provost/initiatives/phd_board/rights_responsibilities).

Annual Review Policy

Feedback and Mentoring are crucial to the success of a PhD student. As such, there is an Annual Review policy for all Homewood PhD students. Once per academic year, all full-time Homewood graduate programs are required to provide a written review to: (a) all doctoral students, and (b) all master’s students conducting thesis research.

Departments should include mention of funding continuation, as appropriate; as well as have a space for discussion about the student’s professional development goals and ways to develop strategies to achieve those goals. This review must include the opportunity for the student to offer self-evaluation. Students who fail to attain a program’s minimum level of performance may be placed on academic probation or dismissed using the procedures outlined in the Homewood Schools Policy for Graduate Student Probation, Dismissal, and Funding Withdrawal (http://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/academics/policies). In making these decisions, particularly that of dismissal, the program will take into consideration extenuating circumstances beyond the student’s control.

The Whiting School of Engineering has established a Guide to Effective Annual Reviews (https://engineering.jhu.edu/graduate-studies/academic-policies-procedures-graduate/#accordion-panel-10) to assist both advisors and students make these annual reviews a useful tool in the development of each student.

THE BELOW POLICIES APPLY TO BOTH CONTINUING AND NEW STUDENTS, UNLESS NOTED SPECIFICALLY OTHERWISE

Student Enrollment Statuses

Graduate students in the full-time Arts and Sciences and Engineering degree programs based at Homewood are initially enrolled as full-time and are given a Resident status. Other registration statuses include: Graduate Study Abroad, Nonresident, Leave of Absence, Part-time and Visiting. Prior to a student changing his or her registration status, approval from the student’s degree program and appropriate office(s) must first be secured.

Degree-Seeking Graduate Students, KSAS

All KSAS fulltime students are required to be enrolled in at least 9 credits to maintain fulltime status in each fall and spring semester. Most graduate students enrolled in research-oriented degree programs (M.A., M.S., M.S.E., Ph.D. etc.) in Engineering are full-time students. However, part-time study consistent with residency requirements is common in many engineering departments. Students should consult with individual departments to determine the requirements for part-time study.

• Typically, fulltime WSE Ph.D. students will be enrolled in a combination of WSE classes and/or research for a total of at least 20 WSE credits each fall and spring semester.
• Typically, fulltime WSE Masters students will be enrolled in a combination of classes and/or research for a total of at least 9-10 credits each fall and spring semester.

Visit http://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/academics/wse-graduate-credit-hours/ for more information and for Frequently Asked Questions.

Visiting (Not Degree-Seeking) Students

In some cases, graduate students from other institutions may participate in a visitation or residency at the Homewood Campus. These students are designated as “Visiting.” Although not candidates for a Johns Hopkins advanced degree, visiting graduate students (those not candidates for a Johns Hopkins graduate degree) may be enrolled on a full- or part-time basis with the approval of the chair of the department and the dean of their respective school. Visiting graduate students will be limited to two consecutive terms of either full- or part-time study.

There are two categories of non-degree (visiting) graduate students: (1) visiting graduate student (primarily taking courses), and (2) visiting graduate scholar (primarily pursuing research). Both categories must apply through their intended program of study and through the online application: http://grad.jhu.edu/apply/visiting-students/.

All non-degree visiting graduate students/visiting graduate scholars must register in every semester that they are here for the visiting student course (AS/EN 990.890 ‘Graduate Research Practicum’); there is no tuition charge for this course. Failure to register may result in the student’s removal from payroll, loss of health insurance, visa compliance issues, and/or lapses in university services/access.


Part-Time Graduate Students (in a fulltime, Homewood-based graduate programs)

New Homewood graduate students starting their full-time program in a part-time status are extremely rare, and are only allowed when the chair of a department or the director of a degree program makes a qualified written request to, and receives approval from, their cognizant Dean’s Office of Academic Affairs. Students already matriculated in their degree program who wish to change to a part-time status after completing at
least one semester of full-time study may ask for permission of their program, and the Office of International Services (OIS), when applicable, to change status. Students will generally not be eligible to switch to part-time status if they are working primarily on the Homewood campus or working full-time on research for their degree. Part-time graduate students must still meet their degree residency requirements before they receive an advanced degree (WSE need to have two full-time resident semesters, KSAS and WSE PhDs, and KSAS Master's need to have two consecutive full-time resident semesters).

Part-time has two major components: (1) a student cannot be part-time without prior approval from their department, and from OIS (when applicable), and (2) a part-time student cannot take more than 2 classes in a semester, or they will be automatically put back to full-time status (note that for WSE graduate students, part-time is any credit load below 9 credits (not including 9 credits)).

Costs:

- Part-time tuition charges are by the course in KSAS.
- WSE graduate students who are part-time in a full-time program are charged a minimum tuition fee up to 3 credits. Any additional credits taken by a WSE graduate student who is part-time in a full-time program will be charged by the credit.

For current tuition information, visit Homewood Student Accounts at https://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/student-accounts/tuition-fees/.

Health Benefits: students in KSAS and WSE full-time programs who are in a part-time status are automatically enrolled in student health benefits, and may be responsible for assessed premium(s). Visit https://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/Registrar/students/student-health-benefits/ for more information.

Payroll: Generally, students who are part-time cannot be on student payroll. There may be exceptions for final semester international students in certain circumstances. Please consult with the Office of Student Employment Services (http://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/studentemployment) for more information.

International students: Visa-holders (F-1, J-1, etc.) wishing to change their enrollment status to part-time must first meet with OIS to determine eligibility. There are two separate steps to switch an international to part-time status: (1) the student must secure permission from OIS to apply for part-time status (this is a USCIS form, and not an university registration/enrollment form), and (2) the student needs to make sure their department has contacted the registrar’s office on their behalf to make the official switch to part-time status. International students cannot switch to part-time without completing both steps. International students cannot be part-time unless they are in their final semester of their degree program.

Combined Bachelor’s/Master’s Students

The term ‘Combined Bachelor’s/Master’s Student’ can be misleading. This status is reserved only for JHU undergraduate students who have been accepted concurrently into a WSE or KSAS Homewood-based fulltime graduate program while still completing their undergraduate requirements. Most Combined Bachelor’s/Master’s undergraduate students will have to switch to graduate status to complete degree requirements. In order for a student’s status to change from undergraduate to graduate, a Change of Classification Form for Combined Students must be completed. For students whose status change is due to completion of eight semesters of full-time undergraduate student at JHU (or the equivalent for transfer students), it is the responsibility of the Academic Staff in the student’s chosen graduate program to sign the form and forward it to the Office of the Registrar. For students whose status change is due to completion of undergraduate degree requirements prior to the eighth semester of full-time undergraduate study at JHU (or the equivalent for transfer students), it is the responsibility of the Academic Staff in the student’s undergraduate program to sign the form first. It then goes to the student’s graduate program before it is received by the Office of the Registrar.

Visit the Combined Bachelor’s/Master’s degree (http://engineering.jhu.edu/academics/combined-bachelors-masters) website for more information.

Postdoctoral Fellow Appointments

Postdoctoral fellows are at the university to undertake a research program in cooperation with a member of the faculty. All appointments are arranged through the individual departments. Proof of successful PhD completion and eligibility for employment will be required before any appointment may begin.

Visit http://postdoc.jhu.edu/ for more information.

Residency Requirements

Every full-time WSE Master’s student must register as a full-time Resident graduate student for at least two semesters or satisfy an equivalent requirement approved by the appropriate department. (Combined bachelor’s-master’s degree students are exempt, as are those who enter a WSE master’s degree program after two or fewer semesters following completion of a JHU undergraduate degree.)

Every full-time KSAS Master’s student must register for a minimum of two consecutive semesters as a full-time, Resident graduate student.

Every full-time PhD Student (WSE and KSAS) must register for a minimum of two consecutive semesters as a full-time, Resident graduate student.

Graduate Study Abroad (KSAS only)

The status of Graduate Study Abroad is usually limited to those students in the departments of Anthropology, Comparative Thought and Literature, and German & Romance Languages and Literatures, who are required as a part of their regular degree program to complete a semester or more of full-time study at a foreign university. While in the case of the History of Art Department study abroad is not a general requirement, many of its graduate students do go abroad to conduct dissertation research. The category of Graduate Study Abroad is considered a full-time status. The use of this category for situations other than those noted above requires the approval of your department chair of the Homewood Graduate Board. A student on Graduate Study Abroad is required to pay 10% of the full-time tuition rate for each semester abroad. The KSAS Dean’s Office will pay the remaining 90% tuition balance.

Students who are enrolled in the Student Health Benefits Plan are encouraged to contact Consolidated Health Plans (CHP) or the Registrar’s Office prior to leaving campus for coverage details while abroad. Graduate Study Abroad students should discuss all plans with their department/advisor in advance. Additionally, international students should always consult with OIS before making any travel plans or status changes. You may reach CHP at (877)657-5044.
The Graduate Study Abroad Application is available here.

**Nonresident Status**

Nonresident (NR) status is a full-time status typically reserved for students who have completed all required course work and exams (Internal and GBO, as per degree requirements), and are working on their thesis or dissertation. The nonresident student's advisor/department is not obligated to cover the cost of tuition nor of the University’s health benefits for Nonresident students. Nonresident students who are enrolled in JHU’s health benefits are responsible for paying the premiums themselves if there is no available support from the student’s department/advisor.

**Eligibility**

KSAS graduate students may be eligible for Nonresident Status if they:

- Have completed all coursework and requirements for the graduate degree other than the presentation and defense of the master’s essay or doctoral dissertation
- Have reached the end of their departmental support period or have exhausted support from grants and cannot be fully supported by the department.
- Work 19.9 hours per week or fewer during the academic year if employed by Johns Hopkins University in any capacity (intersession or summer employment can be full-time, however). If working, students must be on salary (not stipend) and paid hourly. NOTE: Research or teaching assistants expected to work more than 19.9 hours per week do not qualify for Nonresident status.

WSE full-time program PhD and Master's Students are generally only eligible to apply for one of the three WSE PhD/Master's Nonresident Statuses if they have no outstanding coursework (defined as either assignments/tests required for a class in which a student is currently enrolled or coursework in progress towards resolving an Incomplete grade) or exams (internal and preliminary GBOs for example) to complete:

Note that nonresidency is a full-time status intended for students who are primarily not on campus.

- **NR WSE PhD/Master's dissertation/thesis/capstone/project completion**: Student is very nearly finished—just has some writing up to do and defend—but needs to leave campus to start work. Expectation is one semester, but two may be allowed. Student pays the NR tuition, and typically receives no stipend or health benefits support.
- **NR WSE PhD/Master’s study away**: Student (with or without advisor) has the opportunity to be actively engaged in PhD work but at a non-JHU facility. Student remains fully supported by PI/department/host facility (NR tuition, stipend, health benefits support provided for student).
- **NR WSE PhD/Master's internship/co-op**: Student voluntarily takes time to pursue other pursuits that may be only tangentially relevant to their degree. The expectation is that they will return to campus in a residential capacity to complete their degree. Student typically pays NR tuition, receives no stipend or health benefits support. Time in this status is typically one year, but can be renewed for a second year.

Students who are enrolled in University Student Health Benefits are encouraged to contact the Registrar’s Office prior to entering into a NR status. Graduate Study Away students should discuss all plans with their department/advisor in advance. Additionally, international students should always consult with OIS before making any travel plans or status changes. The Nonresident PhD/Masters Study Away Application is available here (http://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/academics/graduate-board/policies-and-forms).

**Tuition**

Students on Nonresident status are charged 10% of full-time tuition per semester.

**Restrictions**

Nonresident students are permitted access to campus, faculty advising and JHU services, however, they are not permitted to enroll in courses, with these three exceptions: (1) international students who file for Curricular Practical Training F1 (CPT1) through the OIS may register for a course entitled “Research and Teaching Practicum” (KSAS) or “Engineering Research Practicum” (WSE), and/or (2) enrollment in EN.500.603 Academic Ethics, and/or (3) enrollment in AS.360.625 Responsible Conduct of Research. Exceptions 2 and 3 are granted by the student’s respective Office of Graduate Academic Affairs.

While in Nonresident Status, students are required to online enroll in AS/EN.910.600 Non-Resident Status for each semester.

The maximum amount of time that a student may retain Nonresident Status is four semesters for KSAS master’s students and ten semesters for KSAS doctoral students, and 1-2 semesters for WSE doctoral and master’s students (see WSE-specific nonresident statuses for PhDs and Master’s students above). Upon reaching this limit, the student will be required to register for either part-time status (WSE only, as appropriate) or full-time Resident status until degree completion.

**Application Procedures**

Students are required to complete and sign an Application for Nonresident Status indicating that they meet the requirements as stated above. The form should be signed by the department, the OIS (if applicable), and either the WSE Vice Dean for Education (or WSE designee), or the KSAS Vice Dean for Graduate Education (or KSAS designee).

Students should apply for Nonresident status well in advance of the first semester for which it is desired. Deadlines are posted here (http://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/academics/graduate-board/policies-and-forms). When requesting a change of status for the current term, such petitions should be submitted no later than the end of the second week of the semester.

**Leave of Absence**

A Leave of Absence (LOA) is an approved absence from the University during which time students are not charged tuition nor are they required to register. Time spent on an LOA is regarded as an approved break in study and is not counted toward the total time-to-degree. If a student fails to register without obtaining an approved LOA the student will be considered withdrawn from their degree program.

Students are encouraged to contact the Registrar’s Office prior to applying for an LOA for details regarding health benefits while on LOA.

International students must contact OIS before filing for LOA.

**Eligibility**

All KSAS and WSE full-time and part-time program graduate students are eligible for LOA if one of the following conditions prevents them from continuing with their graduate studies:
• A documented physical or mental medical condition.
• Compulsory military service.
• Personal or immediate family hardship.
• NOTE: Financial difficulty alone is not a valid reason for requesting an LOA.

LOA Tuition and Financial Support
Students on LOA are not charged tuition for the semesters they are granted the leave; the period of leave is simply regarded as an approved interruption of the degree program; however, the University cannot guarantee that financial support will be available when students resume their studies. After taking an LOA, students must re-apply for tuition assistance, research assistantships, fellowships and/or teaching assistantships. Such matters are left to the discretion of the department. Before applying for a LOA, students should consult their department for information regarding funding opportunities upon return from LOA.

LOA Restrictions
Graduate students may apply up to four semesters of LOA (summer terms are not counted) when medical conditions, compulsory military service, or personal or family hardship prevents them from continuing their graduate studies.

Continued approval is based on the reason(s) for the request. Additional information may be requested by the department, or either the WSE Vice Dean for Graduate Education (or WSE designee), or the KSAS Vice Dean for Graduate Education, Centers and Programs (or KSAS designee).

Students on LOA are not permitted to use any University student services and/or facilities (e.g., computing labs, library, labs, athletic facilities, etc.) and may not be enrolled at another University.

Students on LOA who wish to continue working at Johns Hopkins are not eligible to be paid through the Student Payroll Office and must therefore be hired through the appropriate divisional Human Resources Department.

No progress toward degree completion or coursework can be made while on LOA.

Students on LOA do not have access to student health benefits. The only exception is for a student on a MLOA (medical leave of absence). Students should consult with their cognizant Dean’s Office of Academic Affairs (Renée Eastwood, KSAS; Christine Kavanagh, WSE) for more information.

Application Procedures
To be granted LOA status, students are required to complete and sign a LOA Application form and provide a letter stating the reason for their application. The form must be signed by the student’s department, the OIS (if applicable), and either the WSE Vice Dean for Graduate Education (or WSE designee), or the KSAS Vice Dean for Graduate Education, Centers and Programs (or KSAS designee).

Students wishing to return from an LOA must complete an Application to Return from LOA form (http://homewoongrad.jhu.edu/academics/graduate-board/policies-and-forms). Application deadlines are posted here (http://homewoongrad.jhu.edu/academics/graduate-board/policies-and-forms).

The departure of a student from one of the Homewood Schools without prior arrangement of Nonresident status or Leave of Absence status will be deemed a permanent withdrawal from the student’s program. Students who withdraw from their program must be formally readmitted at the discretion of the department, before they may return to the University. If readmitted, they do not pay a second application fee, but must satisfy the residency requirement for the degree following readmission (even if previously satisfied), and pay all outstanding fees.

Special Note: LOAs and Academic Probation
If a student needs to take a LOA while they are on an Academic Probation, their probation is paused for the duration of the approved LOA period. Upon the student’s return from LOA, their probation is reactivated with the same terms, but the clock for the probation is reset from the date of return to the longer of (1) the minimum time period dictated by the policy for the appropriate category as noted on the student’s original probation letter (such as research, coursework, etc.), or (2) the remainder of the student’s probationary period as noted in the student’s original probation letter.

Satisfactory Progress
Homewood Schools Graduate Student Academic Review Policy
This policy applies to all full-time WSE and KSAS doctoral students and master’s students conducting thesis research. Each graduate program is required to publish its own policies and standards with respect to academic standing. At the end of each semester, all full-time Homewood graduate programs are expected to review the academic records of their graduate students to evaluate academic progress.

Once per academic year, all full-time Homewood graduate programs are required to provide a written review to all doctoral students, and to all master’s students conducting thesis research.

Departments should include mention of funding continuation, as appropriate; as well as include a substantive discussion about the student’s professional development goals and ways to develop strategies to achieve those goals. This review must include the opportunity for the student to offer self-evaluation.

WSE has established a Guide to Effective Annual Reviews (https://engineering.jhu.edu/graduate-studies/academic-policies-procedures-graduate/#accordion-panel-10) to assist both advisors and students make these annual reviews a useful tool in the development of each student.

Students who fail to attain a program’s minimum level of performance may be placed on academic probation or dismissed using the procedures outlined in the Homewood Schools Policy for Graduate Student Probation, Dismissal, and Funding Withdrawal. In making these decisions, particularly that of dismissal, the program will take into consideration extenuating circumstances beyond the student’s control.

Probation/Dismissal/Withdrawal
Academic Probation
Whenever it is determined that a graduate student has failed to meet minimum academic, research, and/or TA requirements, that student may be placed on academic probation. This change in status requires a formal letter and a meeting between the student and either his/her faculty advisor, chair, and/or departmental director of graduate studies. The letter should clearly outline the student’s academic shortcomings, indicate the corrective measures necessary to remain in the program and state the length of the student’s probationary period. Any funding ramifications for the student should be included as well. Following the conclusion of the stated probationary period, the program must inform
the student of his/her status based upon whether the student has met the requirements as stated in the probation letter.

Typical probation outcomes include:

1. removal of the student from probation
2. extension of the probationary period, or
3. dismissal of the student.

While on probation, students maintain their active, enrolled student status and are expected to continue in their obligations, courses, and research, as appropriate. Whatever funding support in place at the start of probation (if any) remains in place during the probation period.

Please see the full policy (http://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/35/2014/08/Graduate-Student-Probation-Funding-Withdrawal-and-Dismissal-Policy.pdf) for more information on process, appeals, etc.

**Academic Dismissal**

**Dismissal After Probation**

This must be done with a formal letter citing the reason for dismissal and requires a meeting between the student and his/her faculty advisor or the departmental director of graduate studies. Academic dismissal will be noted on the student’s transcript at the request of the program and with the approval of the cognizant Dean. A student may appeal this decision.

**Dismissal Without Probation**

A student may be dismissed without a formal probation period under three circumstances:

1. if he/she meets the conditions for dismissal based on coursework as stated by the academic program in its department handbook or on its website;
2. if he/she fails an oral or written examination for which successful completion is necessary to continue in the program (as stated in the program’s degree requirements), or if he/she fails to meet any condition resulting from a qualifying or GBO exam; or
3. if he/she is found to have committed academic or research misconduct and expulsion is the outcome of the deliberations as outlined in the Homewood Graduate Academic Misconduct Policy (http://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/35/2018/06/Homewood-WSE_KSAS_-_and-WSE-EP-Graduate-Academic-Misconduct-Policy-2018.pdf) or the University Research Integrity Policy (https://www.jhu.edu/assets/uploads/2017/08/university_research_integrity_policy.pdf). Under these circumstances, programs are expected to follow the same procedures for Dismissal After Probation. In addition, students are also subject to immediate dismissal on non-academic grounds in accordance with the Johns Hopkins Student Conduct Code (https://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/policies-guidelines/student-code) as well as all applicable policies at the university policies page (https://www.jhu.edu/university-policies).

**Academic Dismissal Consequences**

When a student is dismissed from the University, several consequences follow:

- The Office of the Registrar cancels the student’s registration for the next semester and authorizes a reimbursement of tuition assessed for that semester. Note: this does not necessarily mean that the student receives a refund. For example, if the student has been funded by the department, the department would be eligible for the refunded funds. Also, any refund amount is subject to the refund schedule published by Student Accounts.

- Notation of dismissal may be placed on the student’s transcript at the request of the program and with the approval of the cognizant Dean.

- The Office of Student Financial Services suspends financial aid to the student and work-study aid.

- The Office of International Services performs duties as required by U.S. federal regulations regarding persons not eligible to study at the University.

- Eligibility for student health benefits will end. Please contact the Registrar’s Office for specific information.

- The Student loses access to university services, property, and nonpublic spaces.

**Readmission Following Dismissal**

The terms for readmitting a student who has been dismissed for academic reasons are established by individual departments. The readmission process should be described in the dismissal letter, if deemed appropriate. Students who have been dismissed should discuss the readmission process with their advisor. Procedural instructions for this policy can be found at http://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/academics/policies. The terms for readmitting a student who has been dismissed for reasons other than academic/research/TA performance are decided by the student’s cognizant Dean’s Office of Academic Affairs.

**Voluntary Withdrawal**

Students wishing to withdraw from the University must file written notice with their Department. A Termination/Withdrawal Form (http://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/academics/graduate-board/policies-and-forms) must be generated by the departmental academic staff. Graduate students are encouraged to consult the chair of their department prior to submitting their written notice. Students who withdraw from their program must be formally readmitted, at the discretion of the department, before they may return to the University. If readmitted, they do not have to pay a second application fee, but must satisfy the residency requirement for the degree following readmission (even if previously satisfied), and pay all outstanding fees. Once a student withdraws from the University, their student transcript is closed – changes to their academic record will not be permitted. International students must consult with OIS to ascertain their visa obligations before withdrawing from the University. The same ramifications as listed under ‘Academic Dismissal Consequences’ apply.

**Withdrawal by Lack of Registration**

Students who are not registered by the end of the fourth week of a given semester and either (1) have not responded to correspondence from their department, advisor, Office of Academic Affairs, and/or Homewood Registrar’s Office about their intention to remain in the program, or (2) have responded to correspondence but have made no effort to maintain a valid student status (defined as either enrolled or on an approved leave of absence), will have been deemed to have withdrawn themselves from the University and will be processed as a Withdrawn student in the student system (SIS). It is important to note that paying tuition is not the same as registering for classes. For more information, please see the Student Enrollment Statuses tab under Academic Policies.

**Withdrawal Consequences**

Any outstanding fees will be followed up with the student/their department by the Office of Student Accounts. Students who withdraw from their program must be formally readmitted, at the discretion of the department, before they may return to the University. If readmitted, they do not have to pay a second application fee, but must satisfy the residency requirement for the degree following readmission (even if previously satisfied), and pay all outstanding fees. Once a student withdraws from
the University, their student transcript is closed – changes to their academic record will not be permitted. International students must consult with OIS to ascertain their visa obligations before withdrawing from the university. The same ramifications as listed under 'Academic Dismissal Consequences' apply.

THE BELOW POLICIES APPLY TO BOTH CONTINUING AND NEW STUDENTS, UNLESS NOTED SPECIFICALLY OTHERWISE

Registration

All students must register at the beginning of each term in accordance with instruction issued by the registrar before they can attend classes or use university facilities. Detailed instructions about registration will be provided to all students before the registration period each term. If the student has not been notified at least two weeks before the start of classes for any fall or spring term, the Registrar’s Office should be contacted immediately.

Students who for any reason do not complete their registration until after the prescribed registration period are required to pay a late registration service fee. The late registration fee schedule is posted every semester on the registrar’s website under Term Dates & Deadlines. Graduate students must obtain permission from the chair of their department to register after the second week of classes.

Visit https://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/registrar/students/graduate-registration/ for more information.

Students will not be allowed to register if there are unpaid bills from a previous term. The student is required to pay tuition or make financial arrangements with the Student Accounts Office before registering for a given term.

Withdrawal by Lack of Registration

Students who are not registered by the end of the fourth week of a given semester and either (1) have not responded to correspondence from their department, advisor, Office of Academic Affairs, and/or Homewood Registrar’s Office about their intention to remain in the program, OR (2) have responded to correspondence but have made no effort to maintain a valid student status (defined as either enrolled or on an approved leave of absence), will have been deemed to have withdrawn themselves from the university and will be processed as a Withdrawn student in the student system (SIS). It is important to note that paying tuition is not the same as registering for classes. For more information, please see the Student Enrollment Statuses tab under Academic Policies.

Grades

Grading basis for graduate courses deliberately includes both letter grades and P/F grades. Instructors should have the widest discretion possible in grading graduate students’ work; therefore both grading bases are available to the instructor for courses at the graduate level. While policies in most departments vary, most graduate students receive letter grades or Pass/Fail grades for their coursework. Students should consult their department chairs and instructors to determine their grading requirements.

Registrar deadlines and policies concerning grade changes are as follows:

Letter Grades (A through F)

Changing letter grades of “A” through “F” to a “Passing” grade is not permissible at any time.

All other grade change requests (e.g., “B” to “A”) are acceptable only within one year of semester end date. Change requests beyond one year can only be changed as a result of clerical error, and must be accompanied by a written explanation/justification from the course instructor.

Incomplete Grades (I)

Students who are confronted with compelling circumstances beyond their control that interfere with the ability to complete their semester’s work during the normal course of a term may request an incomplete grade from the instructor. Approval of such a request is neither automatic nor guaranteed. Procrastination or distraction by other pursuits are not regarded as compelling circumstances, and extensions in these situations are unfair to students who have completed their course requirements within the allotted time.

Students who are in good academic standing have until the end of the third week of the next semester to finish incomplete work. Exceptions to this deadline require a petition from the instructor, and appeal to the student’s respective graduate affairs office before the end of the third week of the following semester. When appealing to change the deadline, faculty members must specify a new date for completion of the work which must be before the end of the current semester. Incomplete grades cannot typically be held over into a third semester in order to complete the missing work, nor can incomplete grades be resolved by retaking the course.

Special Rules for Graduating Students

Students with incomplete grades in required courses at the date of degree conferral will not graduate. Students with incomplete grades in courses that are not required for degree completion may still graduate. However, the deadline for completion is abbreviated; students must resolve incomplete grades within 30 days after the date of degree conferral which is when the university closes their graduate record.

Dropping a course with an “Incomplete” grade is not permissible at any time.

Changing an “Incomplete” grade to a final grade (“A” through “F”, “Pass”) may be done by the instructor if during the designated timeframe. After that deadline passes, grade change requests must be sent via a grade change form to the student’s cognizant Dean’s Office of Graduate Academic Affairs (Renee Eastwood, KSAS/Christine Kavanagh, WSE) for review and approval.

In-Progress Grades (IP)

Reserved for classes in which it is expected that the assigned work will require more that one semester to be completed, but the class itself will meet for only one semester, such as graduate seminar courses.

Dropping a course with an “In-Progress” grade is permissible only with the approval of the instructor, and the Dean’s Office.

Changing an “In-Progress” grade to a final grade (“A” through “F”, “Pass”) is acceptable at any time before the student’s departure from the university, and requires the instructor’s approval.

Missing Grades (MR, X)

A “Missing” grade (denoted by an “MR” or an “X” on the transcript) appears if the instructor has not submitted a grade within the defined grading period for the semester.
An instructor may submit a Grade Change form directly to the Office of the Registrar to change a “MR” or “X” grade to a final grade.

Dropping a course with a “MR” or “X” grade is not permissible at any time.

Changing a course with a “MR” or “X” grade to “Audit” is not permissible at any time.

Audit (AU)
When a graduate student enrolls in a course with “Audit” status, he/she must reach an understanding with the instructor as to what is required to earn the “Audit” grade notation. If the student does not meet those expectations (e.g., fails to attend class), the instructor must notify the Registrar’s Office in order for the student to be retroactively dropped from the course. Dropped coursework does not appear on the student’s transcript.

Changing a course registration from “Audit” (student receives no letter grade) to “Credit” (student receives letter grade), or from “Credit” to “Audit” is permissible during the Office of the Registrar’s official deadlines for each semester. Registration changes beyond this deadline are not permissible.

Changing a final grade (“A” through “F”, “Pass”, “I”, “IP”, “MR”, or “X”) to “Audit” is not permissible at any time.

The following ASEN Graduate Courses cannot be taken for AU (Audit):
- Graduate Research
- Dissertation Research
- Master’s Thesis
- Master’s Essay
- Independent Study

These courses can only be taken as P/F or for a letter grade, at the instructor’s purview.

Add/Drop
Prior to the beginning of classes: Returning graduate students may make changes to their registration in-person or online through the SIS system. The SIS system is available for use up to ten weeks prior to the first day of classes.

First four weeks of classes: Graduate students may add classes online (as long as the electronic Advisor Hold has been released) or in-person at the Office of the Registrar. All in-person adds must have a signature from the faculty advisor or department chair.

First six weeks of classes: Graduate students may drop classes online (as long as the electronic Advisor Hold has been released) or in-person at the Office of the Registrar. All in-person drops must have a signature from the faculty advisor or department chair. Any drops within the first six weeks of classes will not be noted on the transcript.

Note: the instructor’s signature must be included on any course add form submitted past the 4 week add deadline and/or past the 6 week drop deadline. Detailed instructions for how to add or drop classes online are available on the Registrar’s website. A calendar with specific dates for adding/dropping courses is also available on their website.

Beginning with week seven of classes: Graduate students have until the end of week eleven to withdraw from a course with the signatures of: (1) course instructor, and (2) department chair, and (3) the student’s respective Dean’s Office personnel (either the Assistant Dean for Graduate and Postdoctoral Academic Affairs for Whiting School of Engineering or the Director of Graduate and Postdoctoral Academic Affairs in the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences). All withdrawals will be noted with a “W” on the student’s transcript.

Registration Holds
A registration hold will be placed for students who have not obtained clearance from the Office of International Services, Student Accounts, Student Health Insurance or Student Health and Wellness Offices. Students should meet with the office that placed the hold so that the hold can be removed. Students who have an advisor’s hold on their registration must have their advisor release the hold online.

Transferring Courses
WSE Master’s degrees (M.A., M.S., M.S.E) and PhDs
For WSE graduate students who earned an undergraduate degree outside of the Whiting School of Engineering or the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, no coursework completed outside of Johns Hopkins University before the undergraduate degree was conferred can be applied to a WSE graduate degree, regardless of whether that course was applied to the undergraduate degree.

WSE graduate students may transfer in up to two graduate-level courses from another institution provided the coursework was completed after the undergraduate degree was conferred. The student must obtain approval from the WSE Master’s/PhD program faculty advisor to do so, and a transcript from any relevant academic institution must be included with conferral completion paperwork submitted to the Academic Affairs office. EXCEPTION: WSE master’s students in a departmentapproved study abroad program can transfer additional coursework (i.e., beyond two courses), but in total, at least half of the courses/credits applied to the WSE master’s degree must be taken/earned at Johns Hopkins.

Individual graduate programs reserve the right to enforce stricter policies.

Double Counting Courses
WSE Master’s degrees (M.A., M.S., M.S.E) and PhDs
The WSE has established the following policies on double-counting coursework for all students in the full-time (Homewood) programs. If an individual program adopts double-counting policies more strict than these, the program’s policies override the school-wide policies. Students are encouraged to refer to individual program policies.

Bachelor’s Master’s Double Counting
Coursework applied to a bachelor’s degree:
Students either in a WSE combined (bachelor’s/master’s) program or seeking a WSE master’s degree after having earned a WSE or KSAS bachelor’s degree may double-count two courses (400-level or higher) to both programs with the permission of the master’s faculty advisor. WSE master’s degree candidates may not double-count courses applied to a bachelor’s degree earned at a different institution. Individual graduate programs reserve the right to enforce stricter policies.

Coursework not applied to a bachelor’s degree:
For students who are either in a WSE combined bachelor’s/master’s degree program, or who have already earned a WSE or KSAS bachelor’s degree and are seeking a WSE master’s degree, any graduate-level coursework (as defined by the WSE graduate program) not applied to the undergraduate degree may be applied to the graduate degree, regardless of when that course was taken (i.e., before or after the undergraduate
Transcripts are normally issued only at the request of the student or with his/her consent. However, transcripts may be issued to offices and departments within the university without consent of the student. Official and/or unofficial transcripts of work at other institutions that the student has presented for admission or evaluation of credit become the property of the university and cannot be copied or reissued. If a transcript of this work is needed, the student must get it directly from the issuing institution.

**Summer and Intersession Courses**

Summer Courses: While most summer courses offered at the Homewood Campus are undergraduate level courses, graduate students may enroll in these courses with permission from their department chair and the course instructor. No financial assistance is available for graduate students who wish to take summer courses. In special cases, graduate students may also take courses at other divisions of the institution.

Graduate students may register for the course Summer Independent Research (990.892) with the approval of their department chair. There is no charge for this course as independent research projects conducted during the summer are not graded and carry no academic weight. An NG ("no grade given") will appear on the student’s transcript.

Intersession Courses: Graduate students are also eligible to enroll in Intersession coursework. Grades are generally given on an P/F scale. Some students use this period to participate in research, independent study, or internships. A list of Intersession offerings is published in late November or early December. A special form, available in the Registrar’s Office, is used for Intersession registration. Students should register before winter break. Students who register for research, independent study, or an internship during Intersession must have the approval signature of their faculty sponsor and academic advising office. This opportunity is offered tuition-free. Visit https://summerprograms.jhu.edu/program/intersession-program/ for more information.

**Course Re-Take Policy**

At the discretion of the Homewood graduate program, a graduate student may retake a course, but the grade from the initial effort will remain on the transcript. This applies whether the initial effort occurred while the student was an undergraduate student or a graduate student.

THE BELOW POLICIES APPLY TO BOTH CONTINUING AND NEW STUDENTS, UNLESS NOTED SPECIFICALLY OTHERWISE

**Graduate Degree Academic Requirements**

**Doctor of Philosophy (KSAS and WSE)**

In addition to any departmental/divisional PhD requirements, PhD students must meet the following to be considered eligible to apply for graduation:

- A minimum of two consecutive semesters as a full-time, resident graduate student.
- Completion of registration in the semester during which degree requirements are met (note: students completing in a Summer term generally should have been registered for the summer graduate research course, but it is allowable if the last official semester of registration is the Spring semester immediately prior to degree conferral).
• Certification by a department or program committee that all school, departmental, program, and/or committee requirements have been fulfilled.
• A dissertation approved by at least two referees appointed by the department or program committee, and submitted to the Commercial Binding Office.
• Successful completion of a Graduate Board Oral (GBO) examination as determined by the department or program committee. This is classified as either a preliminary or a final examination.
• Though time-to-degree is determined by the department, and may not exceed 12 years, continuation in the program will be based/contingent upon satisfactory academic progress after eight years of enrollment.

PhD Advisor Policy

All PhD students conducting research and/or in the writing phase of their degree program must have a research advisor to remain in good standing with their academic and research progress.

Visit https://e-nextcatalog.jhu.edu/grad-students/graduate-specific-policies/ for more information.

KSAMaster’s Degrees (M.A., M.F.A., M.S.)

• A minimum of two consecutive semesters as a full-time, resident graduate student.
• Completion of registration in the semester during which requirements are met.
• Certification by a department or program committee that all requirements have been fulfilled.
• A thesis approved by at least one referee and submitted to the Commercial Binding Office when the department requires a thesis.
• Meets the requirements of the school’s time-to-degree policy. (http://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/academics/graduate-board/degree-requirements)

WSE Master’s Degrees (M.A., M.S., M.S.E., M.S.E.M.)

• Every student must register as a full-time graduate student for at least two semesters or satisfy an equivalent requirement approved by the appropriate department. (Combined bachelor’s-master’s degree students are exempt, as are those who enter a WSE master’s degree program after two or fewer semesters following completion of a JHU undergraduate degree.)
• Every student must be registered in the semester during which degree requirements are met; this includes students who have no courses remaining in which to enroll but must resolve coursework for which an “Incomplete” grade was assigned.
• Every student must provide certification by a department or program committee that all departmental or committee requirements have been fulfilled.
• If the student is submitting a formal essay to the MSE Library to help complete master’s degree requirements, the essay must be approved by at least one reader. (See the Homewood Academic Council Faculty Status table, under “Thesis Supervision of Graduate Students,” to determine who may serve as the reader/advisor. Additional readers, if required by program, need only program approval.)
• All courses applied to the master’s degree must be at the 400-level or higher. At their discretion, individual graduate programs may institute a higher course level as the minimum for their own students.
• Every student must earn the master’s degree within five consecutive academic years (10 semesters). Only semesters during which a student has a university-approved leave of absence are exempt from the 10-semester limit; otherwise, all semesters from the beginning of the student’s graduate studies—whether the student is resident or not—count toward the 10-semester limit.
• Every student must complete training on academic ethics (EN.500.603).
• Every student must complete training on the responsible and ethical conduct of research, if applicable. (Please see the WSE Policy on the Responsible Conduct of Research (https://engineering.jhu.edu/wse-research/resources-policies-forms/responsible-conduct-of-research).)

Time to Degree (TTD)

The time-to-degree (TTD) limit for degree candidates is typically determined by a specific program. However, Johns Hopkins University’s general policy requires that TTD not exceed twelve years for Ph.D. candidates, and five years for WSE and KSAS terminal master’s candidates. The TTD count begins with the first semester of registration as a matriculated student. Time spent on an approved LOA will not be counted toward the graduate student’s TTD. Students unable to complete degree requirements within the required time limit are required to withdraw from the University. Full TTD policies for WSE and KSAS can be found at http://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/academics/graduate-board/new-grad-board-residency-page/.

Co-tutelle de Thèse

It is the University’s current policy that Johns Hopkins will recognize dissertation research and subsequent dissertation submission for the purposes of a degree from Johns Hopkins alone. It will sign no agreement that supports the concept of a student submitting the same work to different universities to receive two distinct degrees.

The University, however, wants to promote international exchange and in this spirit the Graduate Board has agreed to accommodate students with a desire to include faculty from a foreign university to participate in their research and defense process. Upon submission and review of a current curriculum vitae, the Graduate Board will allow one advisor to be a faculty member of a foreign university and in certain cases will allow the committee to be expanded to include other faculty from a foreign university as long as the majority represent Johns Hopkins. The university will provide no funds to cover expenses. Funding for travel would be up to the department or the foreign university.

All proposed co-tutelle agreements are to be submitted to the Graduate Board for review.

THE BELOW POLICIES APPLY TO BOTH CONTINUING AND NEW STUDENTS, UNLESS NOTED SPECIFICALLY OTHERWISE

Commencement and Degree Conferral

There are three official conferral dates each academic year for the University (December, May, August). The conferral date is printed on the diploma. A formal University Commencement Ceremony is held once per academic year, traditionally in May. Students who have not satisfied all graduation requirements by the deadlines determined by the Graduate Board or the WSE Office of Academic Affairs are not eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony. Students who complete the degree requirements prior to the ceremony in May can request an
official statement of completion from the Office of the Registrar or the Homewood Graduate Board Office.

Visit https://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/Registrar/students/graduation/ for deadlines and official conferral dates.

Application for Graduation
All graduate students must submit an Application to Graduate online through their SIS account in order to generate degree conferral and receive a diploma. Students should consult with their Graduate Coordinator, the Homewood Graduate Board’s website, and the WSE Office of Academic Affairs’ website respectively to determine current deadlines. The dates of these deadlines change each academic year.

In addition to submitting the general application to graduate, engineering students preparing to graduate from a master’s or doctoral program must complete paperwork indicating the courses they intend to apply to their degree. This paperwork is distributed by each department’s Graduate Coordinator and once completed should be returned to them.

Completing Graduation Requirements
Departmental graduation requirements vary; therefore, students are encouraged to speak with their departmental administrator to learn details of their requirements.

Degree Completion Deadlines and Information
The Graduate Board and the WSE Office of Academic Affairs (for WSE master’s students) issues deadlines for submission of theses and essays in the spring semester for the following academic year. These deadlines must be met for a student to be listed as a degree candidate. Students can access the calendar of deadlines on the Homewood Graduate Board’s website (http://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/academics/graduate-board/deadlines) (for KSAS master’s students, and for KSAS and WSE PhD students), the website of the WSE Office of Academic Affairs (http://engineering.jhu.edu/graduate-studies/academic-policies-procedures-graduate) (for WSE Masters), or by contacting their department administrator.

• Students who complete their master’s essay or doctoral dissertation after the end of a semester but before the first day of class of the next semester do not have to register for that next semester. (They will have to file for graduation in that semester, and will not be eligible for student payroll once they are no longer a registered student).

• Graduate students completing a final degree during the first eight weeks of the fall semester or the first four weeks of the spring semester will generate a tuition reimbursement for that semester to whatever entity covered the cost - the student, the department, the advisor, etc. This applies only to students for whom completion of a master’s project, master’s essay, master’s journal submission, or doctoral thesis is the sole remaining degree requirement at the start of the final semester.

• If a student completes a Tuition Deferral Form indicating an expectation to complete the degree within a specific grace period, no payment is required to register for that semester. However, if the grace period deadline is not met that semester’s tuition charge will be added to the student’s account.

• Note that students who complete in the Grace Period for either the fall or spring semesters (or finish in the summer term), and are registered in the semester/term in which they completed are eligible to stay on student payroll until the degree conferral date.

Grades towards Degree Completion
Grades must be submitted in SIS by the posted deadline for each semester, including grades for courses that are required for graduation. Graduating students who are taking courses at cooperative schools or other divisions of the University must make arrangements with their instructors on the first day of class to have final grades submitted to the host school’s Registrar and then to the Homewood Registrar by the Homewood grade submission deadline. If such an arrangement cannot be made, students should not remain enrolled in the course.

Graduate Board
The Homewood Graduate Board (http://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/academics/graduate-board) is responsible for the administration of policies and procedures for the Doctor of Philosophy, Ph.D. of the Schools of Arts and Sciences and Engineering, and for Masters degrees in the School of Arts and Sciences.

The Graduate Board oversees:

• Graduate Board Oral (GBO) Examinations for ASEN Ph.D. students: with the approval of the department chair, a GBO may be scheduled at any time during the academic year. Requests for a GBO examination must be submitted to the Graduate Board a minimum of three weeks before the examination is to take place.

• Dissertation/Thesis Instructions: The student is responsible for obtaining and observing the detailed instructions concerning submission of their dissertation/thesis from their departmental office, and the Homewood Graduate Board Office. Visit http://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/academics/graduate-board/degree-candidacy/ for more information.

• Initial Ph.D. Degree confirmation

• Dissertation submissions

• Recommendations for conferral to the Doctor of Philosophy Board

• See the Deadlines for Degree Completion (https://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/academics/graduate-board/deadlines) website for more information.

Doctor of Philosophy Board
The Doctor of Philosophy Board (http://web.jhu.edu/administration/provost/initiatives/phd_board) advises the Provost about University-wide issues pertaining to the Ph.D. It approves new degree programs and sets guidelines and policies that affect all Ph.D. students. The Board respects the strong tradition of local autonomy of the Schools, and seeks to enhance the visibility and prominence of PhD. education across the University.

The Homewood Graduate Board submits its list of approved KSAS and WSE PhD conferrals to the Doctor of Philosophy Board for final university approval. No Ph.D degree is officially conferred until after the Doctor of Philosophy Board has approved and recommended conferral to the President of the University, and the President approves.

KSAS Master’s Degree Completion

• Minimum of two consecutive semesters of registration as a full-time, resident graduate student

• Certification by a department or program committee that all departmental or committee requirements have been fulfilled

• Thesis approved by at least one reader when the department or program requires a thesis
• Submission of the thesis to the library when a Master of Arts with essay is being requested
• KSAS Master’s Time to Degree Policy (http://www.grad.jhu.edu/downloads/KSAS%20Masters%20Time%20to%20Degree%20Policy.pdf)

WSE Master’s Degree Completion
All Whiting School of Engineering master’s students must complete all of the following steps for the degree to be conferred, and to generate a diploma:

• An Application to Graduate must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar either online or on paper, depending upon status;
• Department-specific certification forms must be submitted to and approved by the department graduate coordinator, and then those forms must then be submitted to the WSE Office of Academic Affairs by the published deadline(s);
• If a formal master’s essay is used to complete degree requirements, the student must submit a properly-formatted essay to the MSE Library Electronic Theses and Dissertations system by the date listed on the WSE website; the emailed submission receipt (generated by the library) must be included in paperwork forwarded to the WSE Office of Academic Affairs.

Visit: http://engineering.jhu.edu/graduate-studies/academic-policies-procedures-graduate/ for more information on deadlines and policies.

Dissertation and Thesis/Essay Submission
ETD (Electronic Theses and Dissertations)

An ETD is a digital version of a dissertation that is available to the public via the Internet. Universities and colleges in the United States and abroad have been moving toward this type of publication for the past decade. In the Fall 2013, Johns Hopkins launched its own ETD portal and process.

All thesis and dissertation submissions must be through the ETD process and portal. See the ETD page for more information, deadlines, and instructions. (https://www.library.jhu.edu/library-services/electronic-theses-dissertations)

The student is responsible for obtaining and observing the detailed instructions concerning submission of their dissertation/thesis from their departmental office, the Homewood Graduate Board Office (http://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/academics/graduate-board/degree-candidacy) and ETD guidelines (http://guides.library.jhu.edu/etd) of the Johns Hopkins Libraries and Museums. Students may also contact the ETD coordinator at etd-support@jhu.edu.

After submitting their dissertation to the ETD Submittal Tool (http://etd.library.jhu.edu), the library will check the dissertation for proper formatting and either approve it or contact the student to make required changes. After the ETD is approved the student will receive an approval confirmation from the system. Students are required to forward this approval email to their departmental academic staff and cc either the Assistant Dean for Graduate and Postdoctoral Academic Affairs in WSE (Christine Kavanagh) or the Director of Graduate and Postdoctoral Academic Affairs in KSAS (Renee Eastwood) as appropriate, with the following items:

• The title of their dissertation typed in the body of the email in title case format with correct spelling and punctuation.
• The degree type and program/department

The degree requirements are not complete unless the final ETD is submitted to the library by the published deadline and the above information and attachments are provided by the student to the Graduate Board Office via the email to the department and the cognizant Assistant Dean or Director of Graduate and Postdoctoral Academic Affairs.

Conferral Closes the Graduate Record
Upon degree conferral, the graduate’s record is closed. No changes thereafter can be made to the graduate’s transcript.

Graduate Alumni Enrollment
After degree conferral, KSAS and WSE Homewood graduate alumni who wish to enroll for coursework that does not lead to a degree are considered Visiting Graduate Students, and should follow the application and enrollment information located at http://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/academics/visiting-grad-student-scholar-policies/