



Research Methods in Science in Engineering

Schedule for Your Last Semester

Slide 1

1

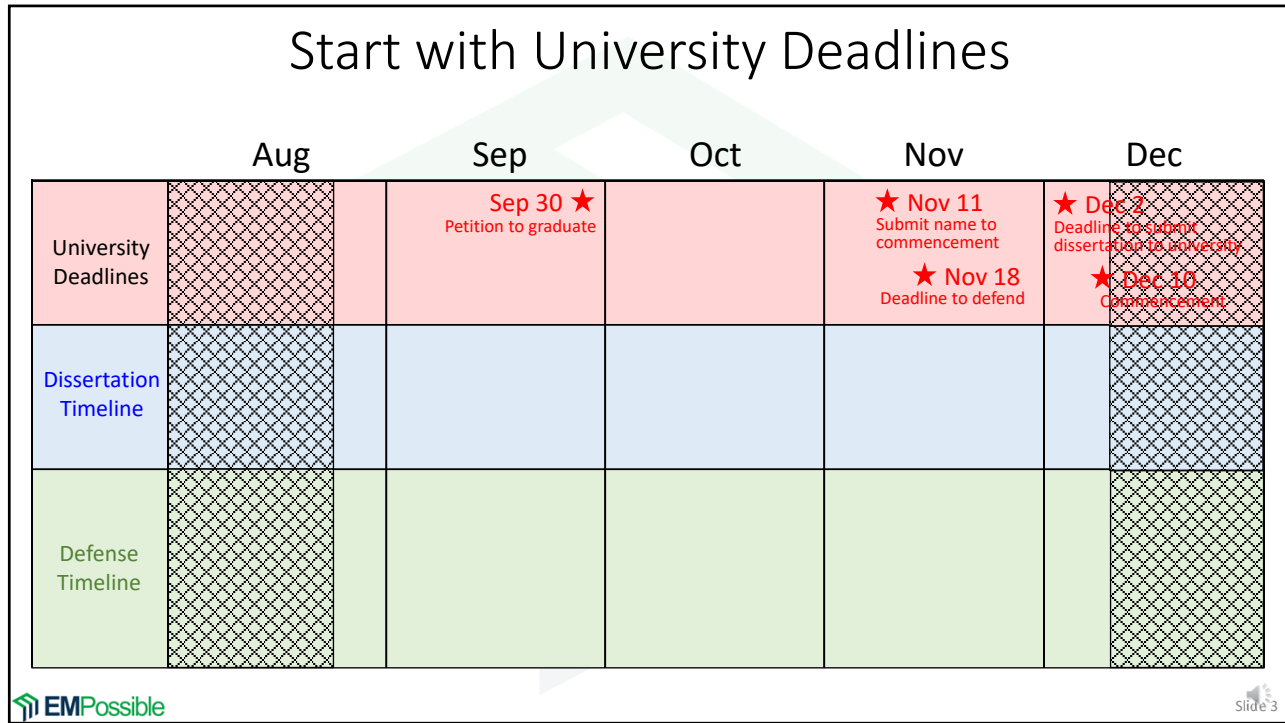
Schedule for Your Last Semester

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
University Deadlines	hatched	solid pink	solid pink	solid pink	hatched
Dissertation Timeline	hatched	solid blue	solid blue	solid blue	hatched
Defense Timeline	hatched	solid green	solid green	solid green	hatched

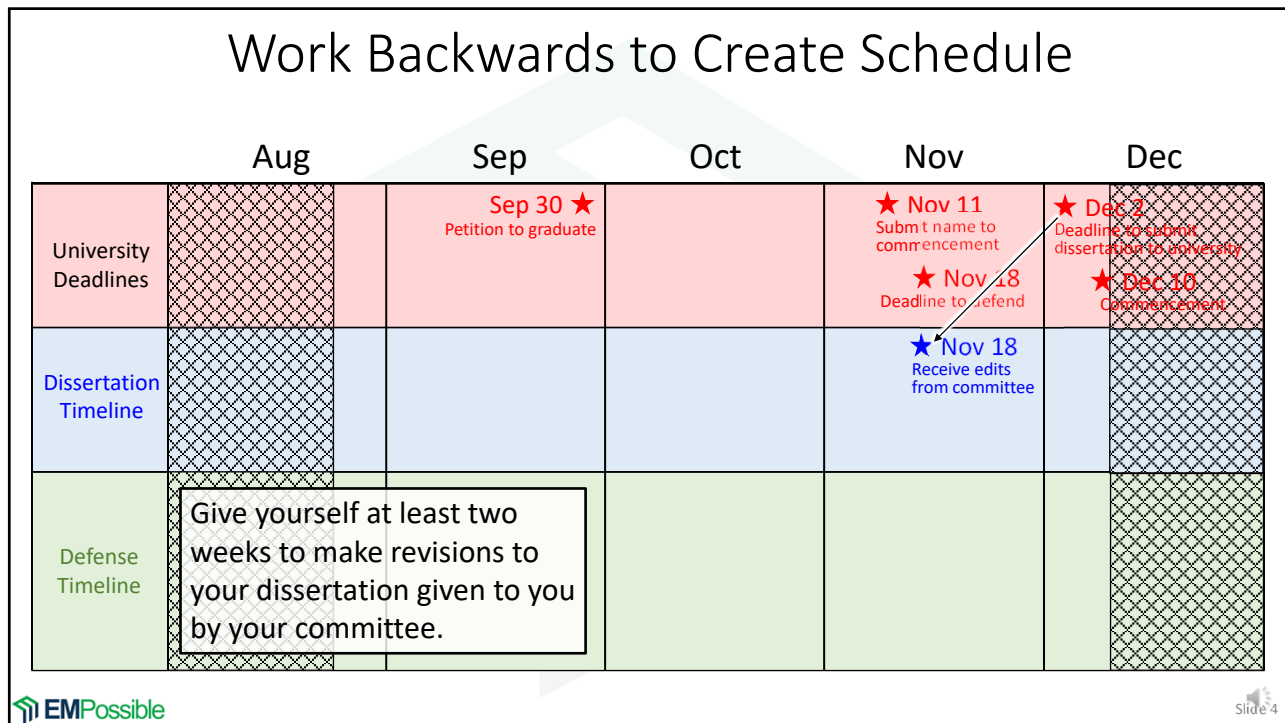


Slide 2

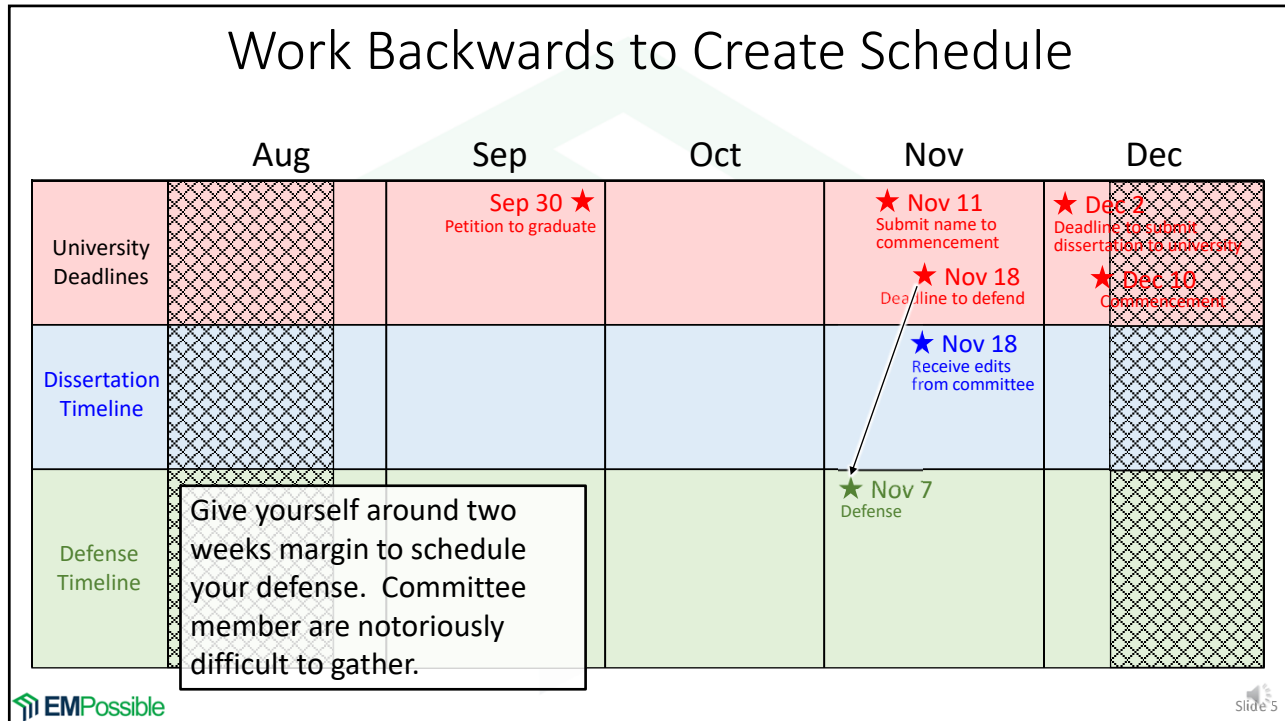
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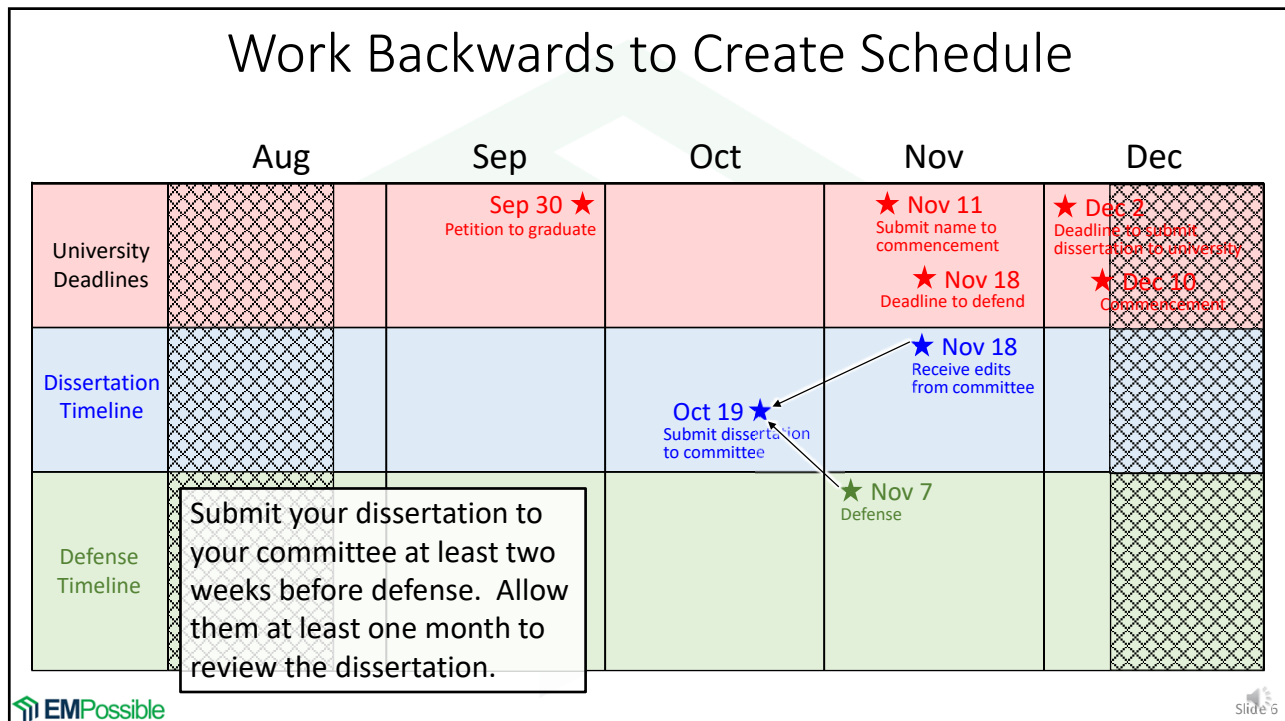
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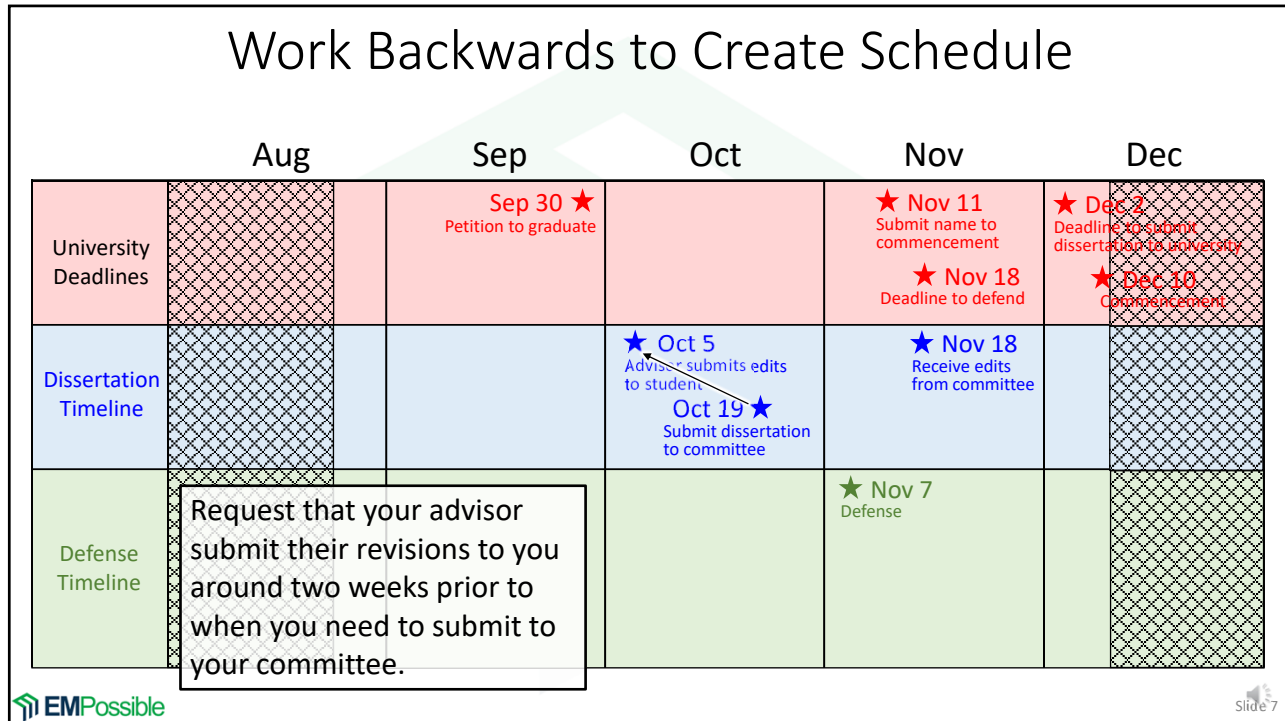
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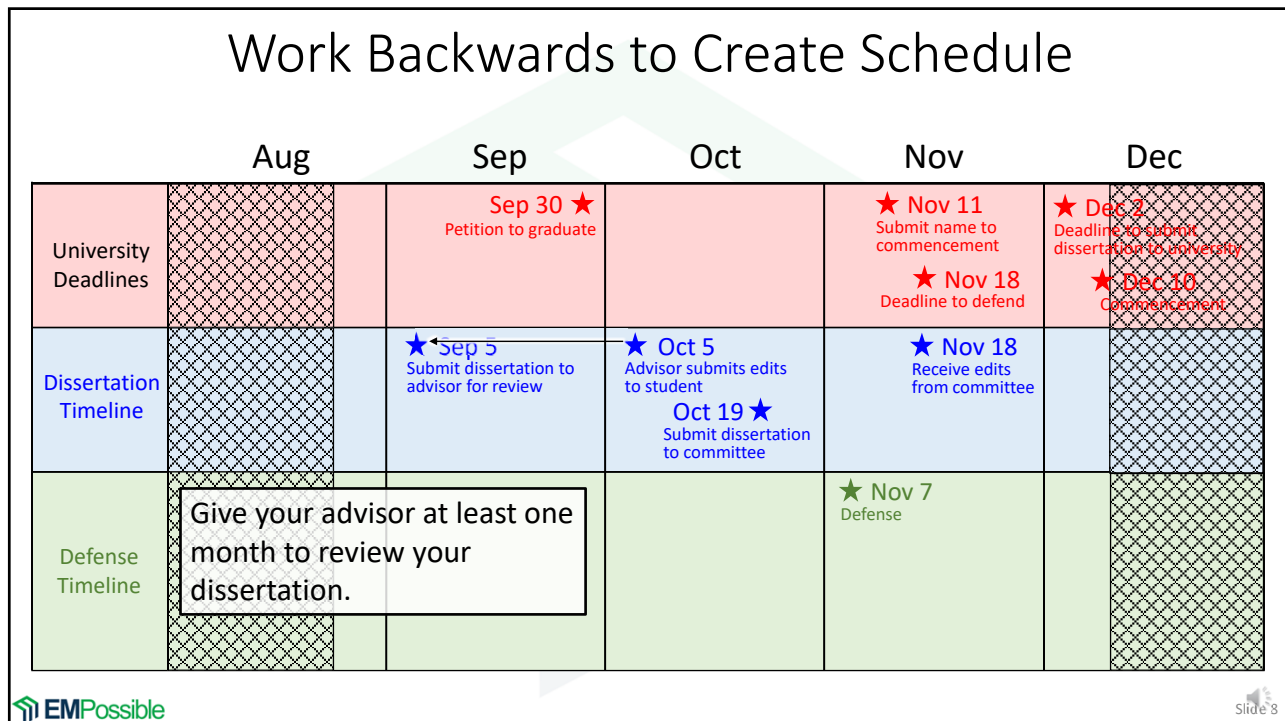
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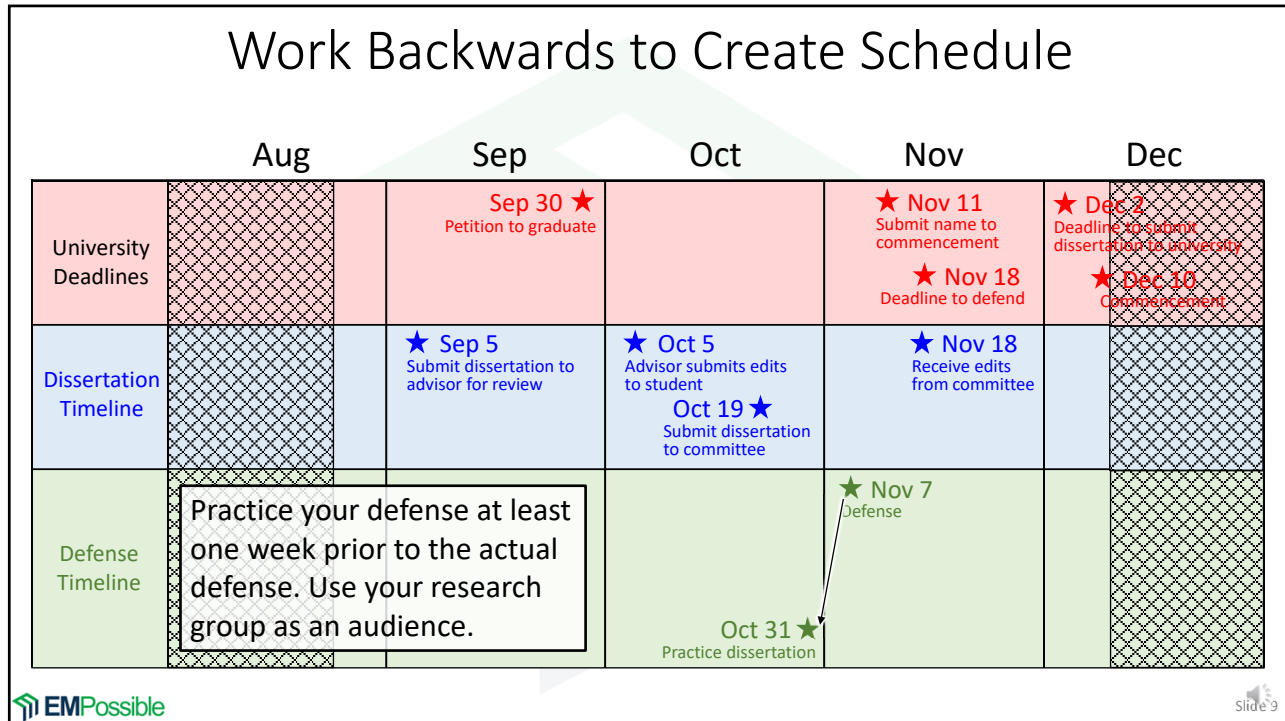
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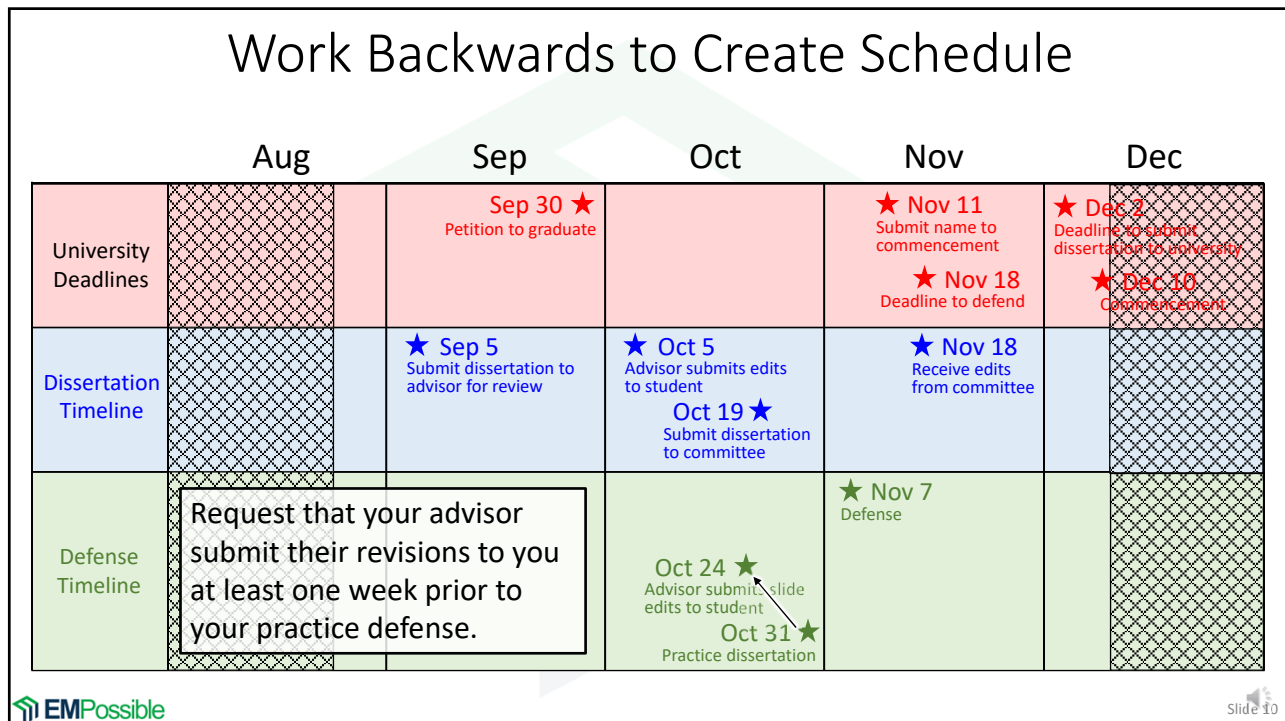
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Work Backwards to Create Schedule

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
University Deadlines		Sep 30 ★ Petition to graduate		★ Nov 11 Submit name to commencement ★ Nov 18 Deadline to defend	★ Dec 2 Deadline to submit dissertation to university ★ Dec 10 Commencement
Dissertation Timeline		★ Sep 5 Submit dissertation to advisor for review	★ Oct 5 Advisor submits edits to student Oct 19 ★ Submit dissertation to committee	★ Nov 18 Receive edits from committee	
Defense Timeline			★ Oct 10 Submit defense slides to advisor for review Oct 24 ★ Advisor submits slide edits to student Oct 31 ★ Practice dissertation	★ Nov 7 Defense	

Give your advisor at least two weeks to review your defense slides.

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Final Schedule for Last Semester

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
University Deadlines		Sep 30 ★ Petition to graduate		★ Nov 11 Submit name to commencement ★ Nov 18 Deadline to defend	★ Dec 2 Deadline to submit dissertation to university ★ Dec 10 Commencement
Dissertation Timeline		★ Sep 5 Submit dissertation to advisor for review	★ Oct 5 Advisor submits edits to student Oct 19 ★ Submit dissertation to committee	★ Nov 18 Receive edits from committee	
Defense Timeline			★ Oct 10 Submit defense slides to advisor for review Oct 24 ★ Advisor submits slide edits to student Oct 31 ★ Practice dissertation	★ Nov 7 Defense	

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Scheduling Your PhD Defense

- It will be VERY difficult to schedule your defense due to busy schedules of your committee members.
- Avoid scheduling your defense in the first and last two weeks of a semester, as those are the busiest for faculty.
- Consider sending a Doodle poll with a variety of schedule options.
- If desperate, ask if the more difficult committee members are okay watching a recorded video of your defense.

Conclusion

- There is very little time in the last semester to finish research. Plan to finish research the prior semester.
- You must have a complete rough draft of the dissertation finished near the start of the last semester.
- Interpret this schedule as best case. There is little margin in this schedule to accommodate emergencies or unexpected delays.
- Expect trouble scheduling your PhD defense.