Residency Requirement at The University of South Carolina, Fall 2013

The intent of a residency requirement is to ensure that doctoral students benefit from and contribute to the full spectrum of educational and professional opportunities provided by the graduate faculty of a research university. When establishing residency, the student should interact with faculty and peers by regularly attending courses, conferences, and seminars and using the library, library services, and other resources that support excellence in graduate education.

After admission to the doctoral program, the doctoral residency requirement is satisfied with 18 hours of course work taken in 3 consecutive major semesters. Enrollment in a summer term is not required to maintain continuity, but credits earned during summer terms (including May Session) will count toward the 18 hours required for residency.

Each graduate program may establish residency requirements that exceed these minimum standards. In doing so, the program may exclude certain courses and credit hours from meeting the residency requirement. The student’s advisory committee certifies on the doctoral program of study (D-POS) form the term dates and the courses that satisfy the student’s residency requirement.