

# College of Optical Sciences Doctoral Plan of Study 54 Units and C Grade Waiver Form

**Instructions to Student: The 54 Unit and C Grade Policies are listed below. If your dissertation director agrees to the 45 total course unit exemption, or agrees to a C graded course on your Doctoral Plan of Study, you must obtain his or her signature below and submit this form to the Academic Office along with your Doctoral Plan of Study. Generally, the Doctoral Plan of Study is submitted prior to the Comprehensive Exam.**

**Graduate Credits Required:**

The number of units of graduate credit required for the PhD is not specified explicitly; the requirement is for the equivalent of six semesters of full-time study. A minimum of 18 units of dissertation and 54 units of coursework is generally required. However with the approval of the student's dissertation director, this number may be reduced to as low as 45 units of coursework.

Note: The 45 units of coursework exception may be appropriate for a minority of students whose field of research requires less advanced courses and greater time for research. 45 course units is **NOT** the default requirement and Plans of Study with fewer than 54 units must be approved by the student's dissertation director on this form.

**C Grading Exception:**

With the approval of the dissertation director a student may list a course grade of C on his or her Plan of Study toward degree completion. However, the student and his or her dissertation director should carefully consider the value of retaking a course in the event of a C grade. Grades of C in certain courses may be included in the Plan of Study with the approval of the student's dissertation director on a very limited basis. Students achieving less than a 3.0 GPA will be placed on probation by the Graduate College.

### Complete Section Below

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I approve the C grade for OPTI \_\_\_\_\_ to be listed on the Doctoral Plan of Study toward degree completion requirements.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Professor Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I approve the minimum course unit exemption of \_\_\_\_\_ units toward completion of the Doctoral Plan of Study.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Professor Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date