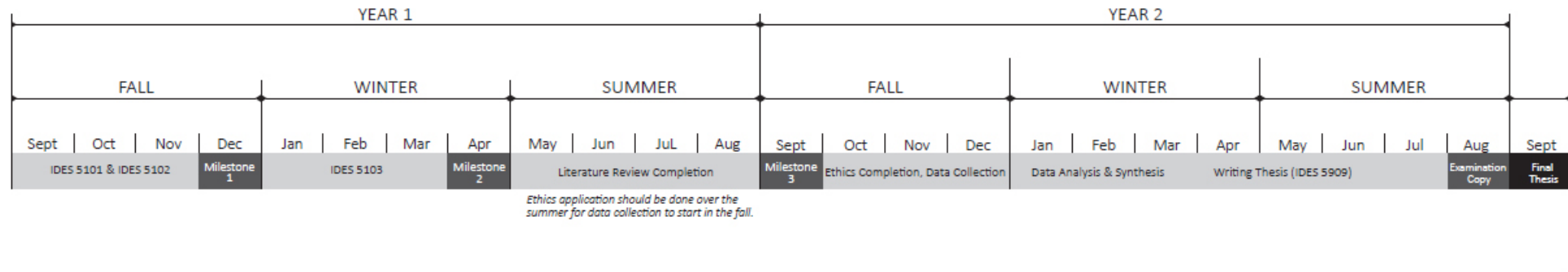


# MDES PATHS TO COMPLETION



## Milestone 1 Statement of Study Interest

**Statement of Study Interest** is a summary of your research interest that has been narrowed down during the 1st semester. It includes a brief description of your preliminary research questions along with the implication of the potential results of the research. Make sure that your research topic must tie to the research areas of the SID faculties with whom you want to work.

This document must be submitted to the MDes Brightspace submission link and emailed to the external co-supervisor for evaluation by **December 23** in the 1st Fall term (if you don't meet this deadline, it will be difficult to meet the April deadline for Milestone 2.)

*Students must submit the thesis supervisor form no later than September 30. Full-time students should update it with the co-supervisor choice no later than December 23; part-time students no later than the end of the third term.*

## Milestone 2 Annotated Bibliography

**Annotated bibliography** is a summary and /or evaluation of sources you have used for researching your study topic. It includes a brief explanation of why each source is credible and relevant to your research topic. This substantial document of the preliminary research into a thesis topic areas must be submitted to the MDes Brightspace submission link and emailed to your external co-supervisor by **April 30** in the 2nd term.

## Milestone 3 Thesis Proposal

**Thesis proposal** describes what you will investigate, why it is important, and how you will do the research to get your thesis plan approved. It includes the clear research questions, hypothesis investigated, relevant sources from concrete literature review, and doable data collection and analysis methods and research plan.

Milestone 3 must be submitted to the MDes Milestones Brightspace submission link and e-mailed to your co-supervisor by **September 30** in year 2.

## Examination Copy

Examination copy of your thesis must be distributed to the thesis examination committee by the **end of August in year 2.**

Oral thesis defense will be scheduled 2 weeks after the submission of the examination copy.

## Final Thesis

The deadline of a final thesis submission is usually in the **middle of September** for November graduation (date changes yearly).

*If the final thesis is not submitted until middle to end of September, graduation will take place in the winter semester, without having to pay ongoing tuition fees.*

Students must successfully satisfy each milestone requirement before proceeding. If a milestone is unsatisfied, the re-submission date will be negotiated with the Graduate Program Coordinator and the student's thesis supervisors.