Qualifying Process

For those who have entered the program BEFORE Fall 2021:

To qualify for PhD candidacy, you must maintain a 3.3 GPA in the three required core courses and show sufficient progress in your research. All students are expected to complete their core courses by the end of their third long semester at UT Austin. If you do not have a 3.3 GPA in your core courses, you may take one additional semester to complete one additional core course and raise your GPA to 3.3. Note that if you are required to take four (4) core courses, the GPA for your core courses is computed based on the average for all four core courses. You cannot retake a class to raise your core course GPA. Discuss your class selections with your supervisor and the graduate advisor to ensure you are on the right track. Under extenuating circumstances, exceptions to the 3.3 GPA may be granted. To apply for an exception, an explanation of the circumstances must be submitted to the graduate advisor in writing; applications for exceptions are considered by the GSC.

For those who have entered the program AFTER Fall 2021:

To qualify for PhD candidacy, you must maintain a 3.3 GPA in the four required core courses and show sufficient progress in your research. All students are expected to complete their core courses by the end of their third long semester at UT Austin. If you do not have a 3.3 GPA in your core courses, you may take one additional semester to complete one additional core course and raise your GPA to 3.3. Note that if you are required to take five (5) core courses, the GPA for your core courses is computed based on the average for all five core courses. You cannot retake a class to raise your core course GPA. Discuss your class selections with your supervisor and the graduate advisor to ensure you are on the right track. Under extenuating circumstances, exceptions to the 3.3 GPA may be granted. To apply for an exception, an explanation of the circumstances must be submitted to the graduate advisor in writing; applications for exceptions are considered by the GSC.