

Ideal Timeline for Phase I students:

(If your Phase I looks different, don't be alarmed. Simply talk to the BMS staff and your advisor to find the right way for you.)

1st semester:

- Attend three to four different basic courses.
- Find your (mathematical) passion.

2nd semester:

- Attend one or two basic courses.
- Attend an advanced course in your chosen field of passion to get more info.

2nd/3rd semester:

- Talk to potential master thesis advisors.

3rd semester:

- Attend more advanced courses to prepare for your master thesis.
- If you have a Phase I scholarship, apply for an extension for the 4th semester (recommendation letter can be either by original Phase I advisor or future master thesis advisor).

4th semester:

- Meet with the BMS office to discuss your plans for the future.
- Write your master thesis.
- Plan your BMS Qualifying Exam (QE).
- Meet with your master thesis advisor and/or other potential PhD supervisors to discuss your options for a PhD.
- If your PhD supervisor has no funding, apply for the Phase II scholarship in June on the condition that you will take your QE and pass it with a grade better than 1.5 by 30 September.
- Apply for gap funding if your QE is planned for the winter semester (5th semester) and you already have plans for a Phase II.

General info (see also BMS study regulations):

Phase I is only officially completed by passing the BMS Qualifying Exam (QE) with a grade better than 2.5.

- The QE can be taken after fulfilling the BMS Phase I requirements (5 Basic Courses and 2 Advanced Courses with a grade average of better than 2.5).
- It can be combined with a master thesis defense.

It is your responsibility to find a master thesis advisor and a PhD supervisor but you can ask for recommendations from the BMS staff or BMS faculty.

It should be the PhD supervisor's responsibility to organize Phase II funding in the form of a PhD position or scholarship. If they do not have funding available, they should advise you on applying for a BMS Phase II scholarship, another project (e.g. a MATH+ project) or other available scholarships. Please be aware that the number of BMS Phase II scholarships is very limited.

Please talk to us: You should meet with the BMS office well in advance to discuss your plans for the QE and Phase II.